Seeking Quality of Life during the Crisis in the Digital City

XVIII Annual Strategic Planning Forum
St Petersburg, 28-29 of October 2019

Lila Leontidou & Nikos Vagionis
Quality of life within austerity

- In this presentation it will be argued that within the Crisis, digital opportunities facilitated:
  - Opening to the Global Sphere
  - International and domestic dimensions of QoL
  - The harmonisation of international and domestic dimensions of QoL
## Greece: Unemployment by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age / Years</th>
<th>2011 (%)</th>
<th>2016 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>51.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>31.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>21.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-65</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Greek Statistics Authority (ELSTAT)
Greece: Unemployment by Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Groups</th>
<th>Unemployment % 2011</th>
<th>Unemployment % 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-65</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Greater Athens:
Spatial Analysis of Unemployment Percentages

Source: EKKE, and Greek Statistic Authority
## Disurbanisation of Athens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attica Region</td>
<td>3,369,425</td>
<td>3,523,408</td>
<td>3,761,810</td>
<td>3,812,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Athens</td>
<td>3,038,245</td>
<td>3,072,922</td>
<td>3,187,734</td>
<td>3,122,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens Municipality</td>
<td>885,737</td>
<td>772,072</td>
<td>745,514</td>
<td>655,780</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Greek Statistics Authority
Various brain drain estimates

- Between 2008 and 2016 some 450,000 young Greeks emigrated abroad (KPMG)
- By 2018 some 250,000 scientists have fled abroad (L. Lambrianidis, Gen. Secr. Min. Fin.)
- By 2018 some 18,000 Medical Doctors have left the country (G. Patoulis, President of Medical Association)
Refugees entering Greece

- 2019 > 50,000 (Oct. 6th)
- 2018 50,600
- 2017 36,400
- 2016 177,200
- 2015 861,700
- 2014 43,400

Source: UNCHR - U.N. High Commission for the Refugees
ICT distribution and geographical dissemination

- A series of Indicators shown next, will demonstrate uneven development in Europe
  - At NUTS 3 level
- The South is lagging behind

(ESPON SIESTA Atlas 2011)
Broadband use by the young (18-24) in the EU

Source: ESPON Atlas 2013
ICT illiteracy in the EU

Source: ESPON Atlas 2013
E-Commerce penetration in EU

Source: ESPON Atlas 2013
People working in the ICT sector
% of total employment

Employment in the ICT sector in the EU

Source: ESPON Atlas 2013
Greece, 2011: Houses with internet access (%)

Source: Greek Statistical Authority - EKKE
Athens: Houses with internet access %

Source: ΕΛΣΤΑΤ- ΕΚΚΕ
ΩΜΑΛΑ ΤΥΧΩΝ ΜΑΞΩΝ
EN GRECE, EN FRANCE
RESISTANCE
http://syriza-fr.org/
ENTRE L'AUSTERITE ET LE FASCISME
WE ARE THE CRISIS

WIDERSTAND
STATT WETTBEWERB
Another form of active international solidarity is tourism.

The openness and tolerance of the society to different cultures, which is directly related to international tourism, has a positive impact on quality of life.

The crisis did not hit incoming tourism very hard, (in distinct contrast to the internal tourism).

The tourism industry was the only one that kept performing positively during the collapse of other sectors of the economy.
Source: SETE, 2016
Tourism & the sharing economy

- Tourism is overwhelmingly based on ICT
- Transport bookings
- Hotel bookings
- Cultural and social events
- In the accommodation sector, the sharing economy emerges. Relevant platforms (facilitated by ICT) make it easier for small entrepreneurs and families to enter the tourist-supply industry and obtain some additional income during the crisis.
Mapping AirBnB

Centre of Athens, 2018

Table 1. Concentration of Airbnb listings per type of neighbourhood (Municipality of Athens, 2018).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of neighbourhoods</th>
<th>Airbnb listings</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Concentration Index*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overrepresentation of upper social groups on all floors of residential buildings</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>13,335</td>
<td>0.039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overrepresentation of intermediate social groups on all floors of residential buildings</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>9187</td>
<td>0.007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overrepresentation of lower social groups on all floors of residential buildings</td>
<td>1740</td>
<td>188,747</td>
<td>0.009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High levels of vertical segregation</td>
<td>5535</td>
<td>307,318</td>
<td>0.018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atypical and other</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td>138,391</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Inside Airbnb 2018

Source: Balampanidis et al, 2019
Challenges of the sharing economy

- However, the sharing economy may act reversely to certain parts of the population, namely the job-seekers, the hotels sector, the rented home seekers, like students, young couples migrants etc.

- The difficulty of auditing for tax evasion is against the social interest, especially given austerity and heavy taxation of the rest of the population.
International aspects of quality of life during crises

Summing up:

- International solidarity
- Tourism
- In interaction with local societies in crisis
- Create new values and new imaginaries impacting quality of life
- Solidarity, interaction, new definitions of quality of life.
- These also affect the domestic dimensions
- The social and solidarity economy, sharing economies and the ‘commons’ counteract negative consequences.
From TINA
There Is No Alternative

to TAPAN
There Are Plenty of Alternatives
Thank you

Спасибо

Lila Leontidou & Nikos Vagionis