

Mani Dhingra

PhD researcher | Ex DAAD research scholar | Urbanist and architect

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<https://scholar.google.co.in/citations?user=y7MY09sAAAAJ&hl=en>

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ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Year	Examination	University/Board	CGPA/Percentage
2015 - 2021	Ph.D. thesis submitted – Methodology to assess smartness quotient inherent in traditional Indian settlements	Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India	Waiting for review from external examiners
2013 - 2014	Master's thesis under guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Subrata Chattopadhyay (IIT Kharagpur) & Prof. Dipl. Ing. Markus Neppl (KIT Karlsruhe)	German Academic Exchange Program (DAAD IIT Masters Sandwich Program)	N.A.
2012 - 2014	Masters of city planning/ M.Tech. in urban and regional planning	Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India	9.53/10 (Institute Silver- batch topper)
2006 - 2011	Bachelors of Architecture	National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, India	8.93/10 (Gold Medalist - batch topper)
2005 - 2006	Senior Secondary Examination	Central Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer region	90.67 %
2003 - 2004	Secondary Examination	Central Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer region	94.20 % (State Merit List)

EXPERIENCE: PROFESSIONAL & VOLUNTEER

Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur

Teaching assistant and senior researcher

July '15 – June '21

- **Preparation and Assistance of seminars, lectures and evaluation** for Masters and Bachelors programme for subjects such as Engineering/ Architecture Drawing, Climatology, Housing and Community Planning, Basic Design, Planning Seminars and Architectural Design
- **Conduct research** on relevant themes in the domain of urban planning, environment, social sciences etc.
- **Assistance** in scientific report writing, editorial works, preparing technical presentations and seminars

Haryana State Industrial Infrastructure and Development Corporation, New Delhi

Planning Consultant for proposed greenfield cities

Nov '18 – Nov '19

- **Project title** - Preparation of Master Plan 2040 for New Cities adjoining Gurugram, Faridabad and Sonapat
- **Technical supervision, advisory and procurement** related roles for high level government functionaries such as Chief Minister's office, Haryana, India
- **Evaluating, facilitating and monitoring** the master planning stages undertaken by the appointed master planning consultants (AECOM, India and SCP, Singapore)
- **Acquisition and preparation of spatial dataset** for the planning team
- **Assisted state government** in taking informed decisions on various matters raised from time to time

Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi

Assistant Director

July '18 to Oct '18

- **Supervision and planning tasks** related to Master Plan Delhi 2020 for Zone F
- **Digitization** of cartographic data and neighborhood level facilities on GIS
- **Responding to RTIs** filed by the general public

Freelance consultant

Urban Planner

Jan '08 – till now

- **Preparation and assistance** of housing schemes, landscape planning, institutional, residential and commercial projects
- Archino Consultants, Alwar; 3D constructions, Alwar; Bhawani Verma & Associates, Jaipur and Shirish Beri Associates, Kolhapur

Integrated Research & Action for Development, New Delhi

Research Associate, climate change and urban development division

July '14 – June '15

- **NGO and center of excellency** under ministry of urban development, India
- **Stakeholders' consultation, focus group discussions and primary household surveys** in slums & hill communities of Himalayas
- **GIS mapping of temporal and spatial changes** of ecosystem assets, disaster prone areas & threats to local communities
- **Geo-spatial and statistical data analysis** to identify urban hotspots and vulnerability assessment
- **Preparation of draft & final research reports, knowledge dissemination and project deliverables**

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

Research scholar under international student exchange program

Sep '13 – Mar '14

- **Documentation of Karlsruhe planning**, under Prof. Rob Van Gool
- **Climate change adaptation and mitigation plan** for Oststadt Living Quarter in Karlsruhe

State Innovation Council; Government of Rajasthan

Planning Intern

May '13 – Jun '13

- **Assessment report of inner-city renewal projects** under JNNURM for Ajmer-Pushkar Region under the mentorship of district collector & magistrate IAS Vaibhav Galriya, Ajmer
- **Primary and secondary surveys** followed by **data analysis**
- **Submission of report and presentation** to high level state government committee

CONTINUING EDUCATION & SKILLS

Certificate courses and skills	CGPA/Percentage
Sustainability strategies, design and ESG frameworks	completed
16th IIRS Outreach Programme on Geospatial Technologies for Urban Planning by Indian institute of remote sensing and Indian space research organization	86.67%
Compulsory Coursework for PhD- Project Engineering and Management, Financing Infrastructure Projects and Decision Modelling	10/10
Open learning campus course: Turn Down the Heat: Why a 4°C Warmer World Must be Avoided by World Bank Group	-
Massive Open Online Course (MOOC): Disasters and ecosystems- Resilience in changing Climate by United Nation Environment Program and Cologne University of Applied Sciences	Completed leadership and expert tracks
Academic Courses on urban conservation, climatology, history of architecture, architectural drawing, planning workshop, regional analysis and programming	-
A2 level German Language, KIT, Karlsruhe	A (top 10%) as per ECTS, US equivalent
Research interest: Sustainable urban development, smart cities, livable and inclusive urban planning, built environment characteristics, social research methods, fuzzy logic-based computation, spatial analysis, text analytics, space syntax, climate change, disaster resilience and risk reduction, ESG frameworks for sustainability, biomimicry, natural capitalism, policy analysis, regenerative economy	
Software skills: ArcGIS 10.5 (pro-version and desktop), QGIS, AutoCAD, DepthMap, R, Python, MATLAB, IBM SPSS, Adobe Photoshop, Revit, 3D Max, MS Office for data analysis and report writing.	

ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOLADES

- Awarded **Best Planning Student** by WB-ITPI in Kolkata
- Awarded with **Institute Silver Medal, IIT Kharagpur, MCP Batch Topper 2012-14**
- Recipient of **DAAD Scholarship for Masters Sandwich Program 2013-14**
- **3rd position for paper presented on “Urban sprawl and its smart management”** in national symposium On ‘managing lands in urban fringes: controlling urban sprawl’ in Kolkata
- Awarded with **Gold Medal, MNIT Jaipur, B.Arch Batch 2006-11**
- Received **2nd position in MNIT Pavilion Design with Recyclable and Collapsible Material**
- Received **13th Nyati Rathi Fellowship Award for best student in B.Arch**
- Birla White Soul Stirring Design Entry – **2nd Position at College level**
- Received Mamraj Agarwal **Rastriya Puruskar for State Merit List** by Her Excellency Mrs. Pratibha Patil

PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

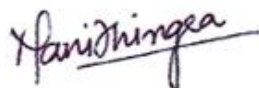
Book chapter ‘Geospatial assessment and identification of inherent smart attributes of traditional neighborhood-level urban communities: a case study of Alwar walled settlements in North India.’ for the edited volume entitled Smart Cities and Smart Communities: Empowering Citizens through Intelligent Technologies under the theme of Smart Community Planning	Submitted
Dhingra, M., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2021). A systematic text-analytics-based meta-synthesis approach for smart urban development. <i>International Journal of Urban Planning and Smart Cities (IJUPSC)</i> , 3(1).	In press
Dhingra, M., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2021). A fuzzy approach for assessment of smart socio-cultural attributes of a historic urban landscape: Case study of Alwar walled city in India. <i>Sustainable Cities and Society</i> , 69(August 2020), 102855. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2021.102855	2021
Dhingra M, Chattopadhyay S. Fuzzy Approach for Assessment of Smart Urban Attributes of Traditional Urban Systems in India. In: Jain M, Ramamurthy A, Tarafadar AK, Mohamed AR, Chndeli FA, Vardhan P, editors. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESILIENT & LIVEABLE CITY PLANNING (RLCP – 2020) - Transforming Urban Systems -. Virtual Mode: Department of Planning, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijaywada, Andhra Pradesh, India; 2021. p. 323–6.	Feb 12 th , 2021
Interview on Sustainability and the DAAD: Our contribution to the 2030 Agenda published on DAAD Alumni web portal with title “For me, ‘smart’ means sustainable, liveable, socially inclusive”, can be accessed from https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/en/members/alumni-portraits/article/germany-alumni-mani-dhingra-sustainability-india.html	2021
Special ISOCARP-UNESCO Event, “Towards Sustainable Cities We Need: An Obligated Way to Save Life on Our Lovely Planet”: a follow up of the 2016 Durban Congress “Cities we Have vs. Cities We Need” around the Sustainable Development Goals in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) at Portland, Oregon, USA	Oct. 23 rd , 2017
Dhingra, M., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2017). Exploring the Real Smartness in an Urban Context through a deductive meta-synthesis approach (Quest to the Real Urban Smartness). 53 rd ISOCARP Congress. CONF. Portland, Oregon, USA	Oct 24 th - 27 th 2017
Dhingra, M. & Chattopadhyay, S. (2017). “Exploring the Real Smartness in an Urban Context through a deductive meta-synthesis approach, ISOCARP. (2017). October 24-27, 2017. In H. Wang & S. Ledwon (Eds.), <i>Proceedings: Smart Communities</i> (pp. 642–652). Portland, Oregon: ISOCARP.	2017
Dhingra, M., Kumar, M., Chattopadhyay, S., Singh, M. K., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2017). City, Culture and Society Macro level characterization of Historic Urban Landscape: Case study of Alwar walled city. <i>City, Culture and Society</i> , 9, 39–53. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccs.2016.10.001	2017
Dhingra, M., Singh, M. K., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2016). Rapid Assessment tool for traditional Indian Neighbourhoods: a Case Study of Alwar walled city in Rajasthan. <i>Sustainable Cities and Society</i> , 26, 364–382. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2016.06.015	2016
Dhingra, M., & Chattopadhyay, S. (2016). Advancing Smartness of Traditional Settlements- Case Analysis of Indian and Arab old cities. <i>International Journal of Sustainable Built Environment</i> , 5, 549–563. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijsbe.2016.08.004	2016
Advancing Smartness of Traditional Settlements- Case Analysis of Indian and Arab old cities. (2016). In Ajman 4 th International Environment Conference (AIEC2016). CONF.	March 3 rd to 5 th , 2016
Editorial Team Member for Pre- and Post-Symposium Publication for International Symposium ‘Livable Habitat and Sustainable Urban Agenda’ organised by the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur in association	June 2016

Participant at International Symposium 'Livable Habitat and Sustainable Urban Agenda' at Kolkata on 27th and 28th of January organised by the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur in association with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA), Government of India	Jan 27 th & 28 th , 2016
Interview on Sustainable Living agenda published on DAAD Alumni web portal on 24th November 2015 with title 'Sustainability to me is an attitude and way of life', can be accessed from https://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/en/members/alumni-portraits/article/germany-alumni-mani-dhingra-sustainability-india.html	2015
Kaushik A., Dhingra M., Singh M. K., Parikh J. K., Indian Cities towards Smartness: A Case Study of Guwahati City, selected in "Smart City Expo World Congress, presented on 17-19 November 2015, Barcelona, Spain"	2015
Dhingra M., Kaushik A., Singh M. K., Parikh J. K., "Mainstreaming Disaster Resilience for Sustainable Development of Cities in India: Case study of Guwahati and Shillong", presented at the 6th Conference of the International Society for Integrated Disaster Risk Management (IDRIM -TIFAC 2015) on October 28, 2015	2015
Participant at an India under Construction Symposium on 'Smart Cities' held at FICCI Auditorium in New Delhi	Nov 28 th , 2015
Participant at National Workshop on 'Governance, Administrative Reforms, and Capacity Building' being organized by ICRIER: Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Honorable Minister of Urban Development, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India, was the chief guest and speak on the occasion.	Mar 25 th , 2015
Participant at "Climate Resilience in Built Environment" at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi	Mar 12 th , 2015
Participant at "Building climate resilient cities: Exploring theories, practices and prospects" at TERI University, New Delhi	Feb 17 th , 2015
Paper "Urban Sprawl & its Smart Management" published in International Journal of Research	2014
Conducted Workshop on Dissemination & Consultation Workshop on "Studies on Subsidized Petroleum Products: Diesel and Kerosene" by IRADe supported by IISD	Nov 14 th , 2014
Round Table Consultation on Policy Engagement with State Governments on Urban Climate Resilience by TERI- (ACCCRN & Rockefeller Foundation)	Nov 12 th , 2014
National Workshop on Urban Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation: Towards Sustainable Development of Cities organized by UNDMT in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change [MoEF]	Oct 17 th , 2014
Participant & Speaker at Final Dissemination & Deliberation Workshop at TERI, New Delhi on: Reforming LPG & Kerosene Subsidies: Short Term Priorities & Long-Term Ambitions.	Sept 18 th , 2014
"Urban Sprawl and its Smart Management" paper submitted in National Symposium On 'Managing Lands in Urban Fringes: Controlling Urban Sprawl' in Kolkata – 3 rd Position	2013

REFERENCES

- Dr. Subrata Chattopadhyay, Professor, Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur, India, schat@arp.iitkgp.ernet.in
- Mr. Ashim Kumar Manna, Doctoral student, International Centre of Urbanism, KU Leuven, ashimkumar.manna@kuleuven.be
- Ms. Riya Rahiman, Infrastructure Resilience Specialist, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), riya.rahiman@undp.org
- Mr. Rajat Mukherjee, Lead Consultant, Govt & Infrastructure Advisory, Knight Frank; rajat.mukherjee@in.knightfrank.com

I hereby declare that the above information provided is true to best of my knowledge.



Mani Dhingra; Dated 5th July, 2021



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Sustainable Cities and Society

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A fuzzy approach for assessment of smart socio-cultural attributes of a historic urban landscape: Case study of Alwar walled city in India

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ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:
Smart socio-cultural attributes
Historic urban landscape
Triangular fuzzy numbers
Fuzzy arithmetic averaging operators
Robust PCA

ABSTRACT

Smartness is a vague concept with different meanings for different people. It is imperative to harness the latent potential of existing settlements for an inclusive smart urban development. The study aims to assess the socio-cultural attributes of an Indian historic urban landscape with a thriving residential culture. Since data collection of neighborhood-level urban communities is not feasible in India, a structured questionnaire was used to conduct household surveys. Such real-world phenomena have inherent imprecision and ambiguity associated with human judgments. Therefore, the survey items are assumed as fuzzy linguistic variables, and the raw dataset is transformed into triangular fuzzy numbers. Fuzzy arithmetic and weighted averaging operators are applied for the hierarchical evaluation of indicators and variables. A robust algorithm is used for the dimension reduction of a fuzzy coded dataset while dealing with subjective responses. The aggregated fuzzy scores show an overall better performance of traditional communities with respect to their socio-cultural attributes, such as a sense of safety and collective efficacy. The application of fuzzy logic in urban planning and allied behavioral studies can effectively and pragmatically deal with the inherent uncertainties in a humanistic system. Future researchers may explore fuzzy multi-criteria evaluation approaches for ordinal scale datasets.

1. Introduction

Many countries around the globe, including India, are adopting the smart city mantle to tackle urban issues for self-promotional purposes (Hidolmi, 2013). However, smart interventions are awkwardly fixed in an existing socio-spatial setting without considering its historical and geographical context (Neirótti, De Marco, Cagliano, Mangano, & Scorrano, 2014; Shelton, Zook, & Wiig, 2015; Yigitcanlar, 2015). The concept of smart cities emerged with the Kyoto Protocol in 1998 with a strong focus on environmental sustainability (Dhingra & Chattopadhyay, 2016, 2017). Post-2000, global attention shifted to digital interventions in urban areas, and with the Europe 2020 strategy, the overall narrative again turned back to the agenda of urban sustainability (Aurigi & Odenwal, 2020). This entire process of building smart cities is strongly criticized because of its fragmented strategies, top-down approaches, and poor adaptation to the local needs (Angelidou, 2017; Martin, Evans, & Karvonen, 2018).

Angelidou (2014), Castelnovo (2016), Claire, Catherine, Thorne, and Griffiths (2014), Deakin and Al Waeir (2011), Glasmeier and Christopherson (2015), Harrison (2017), and Prado, Costa, Furlani, and Yigitcanlar (2016) urged to include communities, their socio-cultural aspects, and local context in the smart urban development framework. Also, international organizations such as UNESCO and the World Bank advocate equitable ways of the sustainable revitalization of old cities and their communities. Authors acknowledge that a smart city should promote a lifestyle aligned to local cultural values, social interaction, historical lineage, cultural identity, sense of community pride, and belongingness to strengthen the local narrative and social capital (Prado et al., 2016).

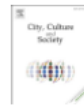
There is a dire need to integrate socio-cultural aspects in the smart urban development framework to elevate the inherent smartness of a Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) (Claire, et al., 2014; Shelton, Zook et al., 2015; Yigitcanlar, 2015). This study defines a smart city as an urban community that improves the quality of life and well-being of its

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City, Culture and Society

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ccs

Macro level characterization of Historic Urban Landscape: Case study of Alwar walled city

Mani Dhingra^{a,*}, Manoj Kumar Singh^b, Subrata Chattopadhyay^a^a Department of Architecture & Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur, 721302, West Bengal, India^b Department of Human and Social Systems, Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo, 4-6-1, Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo, 157-8505, Japan

ARTICLE INFO

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Keywords:
Old neighbourhoods
Sustainable
Historic Urban Landscape
Inclusive
Heritage cities
Social cohesion

ABSTRACT

Globally, old and historic settlements exhibit efficient urban planning in terms of compactness, walkability, energy efficiency and social cohesiveness. However, with the passage of time, usually a city's old settlements undergo numerous socio-economic and physical transformations leading to an urban chaos. The walled city of Alwar in the state of Rajasthan is selected as a representative case study of a medium-sized historic city with a rich cultural past. Alwar is one of the regional priority towns in National Capital Region Plan-2021 of Government of India and is proposed to be an important magnetic centre for the region. The walled city area and its old neighbourhoods portray unique features of a Historic Urban Landscape (HUL). The study identifies the core urban elements of its HUL and Arc Map-10.1 is used to spatially map characteristics of its old neighbourhoods, commercial areas, road network, open spaces and intangible heritage. Figure Ground Analysis and Development Trends Analysis are carried out based on primary surveys, reveal changing housing needs and economic requirements. The study concludes that the traditional residential culture of mohallas and chowks and their rich heritage should be included in the development plans of government with a focus on community-based regeneration rather than tourism alone. This may ensure a socio-economic and environmental sustainability in the long run for such historic settlements.

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1. Introduction

Cities are the society's focal point where the human interaction, diversity, culture and commerce flourish. The several layers of cultural history and growth result in a city's rich past, present as well as its future (UNESCO, 2010; Samani, Salehi, Behbahani, & Jafari, 2011). The fabric of a historic town is not just based on its physical form and structure but also connects various attitudes and activities, giving it a unique identity of relevant human interests. Cities that are the most successful are able to attract investment and businesses to meet the aspirations of their citizens while alleviating poverty, promoting inclusion of society and their heri-

heritage of the city which necessitates the need for urban conservation and rehabilitation to act as a catalyst to promote social interaction between its inhabitants, further encouraging vitality of these communities by looking into their rich past and identifying their beginnings, growth and multiple layers of development (Ebons & Shaw, 2004).

Urban fabric or the web is more or less a result of urban experiences, which are key to human settlements, culture, and society (Cohen, 2010). These material organization of urban space is crucial to producing social and economic arrangements in any city. Elements of urban form tend to mediate physically and spatially with its social, economic and environmental setting (Lynch & Rodwin,



Original Article/Research

Advancing smartness of traditional settlements-case analysis of Indian and Arab old cities

Mani Dhingra *, Subrata Chattopadhyay

Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India

Received 17 March 2016; accepted 30 August 2016

Abstract

The study aims to investigate the concept of Smart Sustainable Cities in traditionally planned and organically grown settlements. Smart Cities Mission is an ambitious project of Government of India targeting 100 cities for improving their urban quality of life. However, there is no universally accepted definition of smart cities because of its vast and vague scope. In such a situation, it becomes important to understand where our old cities stand in terms of smart sustainability and inclusiveness. The methodological approach adopts case analysis of old Indian cities and Arab cities in terms of their environmental, economic and social planning paradigms. These include land use mix, compact development, dwelling density, internal and external connectivity, open spaces, walkable neighbourhoods, access to social services, collective cohesiveness, local area governance, crime & safety, economic diversification and socio-cultural diversity.

The study enlists smart urban elements in our existing old cities, which are derived from extensive literature study of Middle East cities and primary surveys of around 160 samples in a medium sized old Indian city in Rajasthan. The study assesses the baseline situation of culturally rich and varied old cities and need to advance from their inherent smartness using innovative and interactive ICT and urban engineering solutions.

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Keywords: Smart sustainable cities; Inclusiveness; Middle east; Old Indian cities; Smart urban elements

1. Introduction

Cities are the face of the future acting as the engines of economic growth and centres of excellence (ICLEI and the

Cities Alliance, 2007). The United Nations' World Urbanisation Prospects report identifies the highest rate of urbanisation in Asia, which is currently increasing at 1.5 per cent per annum. Between 2014 and 2050, the urban areas in India are expected to grow by 404 million people (United Nations 2014). It is a strong realisation by international



Original Article/Research

Advancing smartness of traditional settlements-case analysis of Indian and Arab old cities

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Dear Mani Dhingra,

You will be happy to know that your manuscript #110920-064944, entitled "A systematic text-analytics-based meta-synthesis approach for smart urban development," submitted to the International Journal of Urban Planning and Smart Cities (IJUPSC), has passed the journal's editorial review process. Next, your manuscript will be submitted to IGI Global for a final check to ensure that all publication requirements have been met. Your paper cannot be formally accepted for publication until this final step is complete. To ensure the timely and efficient completion of this step, please check that you have completed the following:

- All final submission requirements have been met as outlined in the Author's Checklist: <https://www.igi-global.com/publish/contributor-resources/edited-book-author-checklist/>
- Each author on your manuscript has updated and confirmed their biography, email, and mailing address, and has signed the Author's Warranty and Transfer of Copyright Agreement. Any authors who have yet to complete any of these items may do so here: <https://www.igi-global.com/submission/copyright-agreement/?projectId=3044d07-cc15-4e6f-bd35-3c6da20cf0a2>

Should any of these items need to be corrected, you will be contacted by a member of IGI Global's journal development team. They are also able to provide you with the necessary documents and instruction surrounding these items prior to publication.

No manuscript will be accepted unless it strictly follows the manuscript guidelines, i.e., must be professionally copyedited, references and citations formatted according to APA style guidelines, and includes all mandatory sections (Introduction, Conclusion, and References).

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Nicola Martinelli, at nicola.martinelli@poliba.it.