

An aerial photograph of the Hamburg harbor at sunset. The Elbphilharmonie building, with its distinctive blue, wavy, glass-clad upper section, is prominent on the right. The harbor is filled with water, and several boats, including a large cargo ship, are visible. The city skyline is in the background under a warm, orange sky.

WATER
“CITY
WHERE
NEXT?”



Hamburg

International Conference 28/29th September 2026
WATER_CITY WHERE NEXT?
Gleishalle Oberhafen, Stockmeyerstraße 43, 20457 Hamburg

All over the world, cities are rethinking and reshaping their relationship with water. How can this transformative process succeed? The international conference WATER_CITY WHERE NEXT? brings together experts in planning, research and practice.

Monday, 28 september, 10 am - 3 pm

Public tours will invite participants to explore HafenCity, the Bille basin, Grasbrook and the canals of the city centre together with expert guides.

Conference Opening

Monday, 28 september, 7 pm

Dr. Peter Tschentscher, First Mayor of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Karen Pein, Senator for Urban Development and Housing, Hamburg

Prof. Paola Viganò, Architect and Urban planner, StudioPaolaViganò

Conference day with keynote speeches and panel discussions

Tuesday, 29 september, 9 am - 6 pm

Free registration and further information:
www.hamburg.de/go/watercity



Featuring international speakers:

Antwerpen Dirk van Peijpe, DeUrbanisten **Berlin** Juval Dieziger, Holzmarkt25 **Basel** Barbara Buser, Baubüro in situ **Bratislava** Petra Marko, Metropolitan Institute **Chicago** Ciere Boatright, Department of Planning and Development (tbc) **Cologne** Eva Herr, City Planning Office **Copenhagen** Lars Jensen, City Architect • Dan Stubbergaard, COBE (tbc) • Jakob Sand, BIG Bjarke Ingels Group **Geneva** Kristian Borret, Cantonal Urban Planner **Hamburg** Franz-Josef Höing, Chief Urban Planner • Prof. Antje Stokman, HafenCity Universität • Dr. Andreas Kleinau, HafenCity Hamburg GmbH **Kiel** Doris Grondke, Councillor for Urban Development and Construction **London** Patrick Scally, Hackney Wick & Fish Island Community Development Trust **Marseille** Vincent Fouchier, Director-General for the Aix-Marseille-Provence Region (tbc) **Milan** Prof. Paola Viganò, StudioPaolaViganò **New York** Sanjukta Sen, fieldoperations **Prague** Petr Janda, petrjanda/brainwork **Rotterdam** Adriaan Geuze, West 8 • Prof. Kees Christiaanse, KCAP • Arnoud Molenaar, SquareFloatingCity **Stuttgart** Hannah Pinell, Neckarinsel e.V. **Utrecht** Martin Knuijt, OKRA **Vienna** Mark Neuner, Mostlikely **Zurich** Prof. Günther Vogt, VOGT Landscape