

# Excursion Paris

May-June 2023

The research group made a one-week Paris excursion between 30 May–5 June 2023, with rich programme including visits to the 1950'-onwards social housing project in Paris suburbs, *Les Grand Ensembles* (incl. Cité Pablo Picasso, La Défense, Noisy-le-Grand), and the “municipality with a solidarity objective”, [Ivry-sur-Seine](#) (famously rebuilt in the turn of the 1960's–70's by the plan by architects Renée Gailhoused and Jean Renaudie); to ensure equality in accessing public services, the municipality uses an instrument that makes it possible to level the amount what the residents pay for their local services and activities to the level of their income.

Site that was one of the *imperative points of visit*, as in “architecture for the citizens/ equal public services”, and linked with inspirational sources ref. artistic research methodologies peculiarly but profoundly, is *Bibliothèque nationale de France*; BnF has been hosting the [OuLiPo](#)'s weekly Tuesday sessions, “Les Mardis d'Oulipo” since early 2000. The from 1960 active, still ongoing persistence and commitment in methodological curiosity and experimentality plays a key role in the group's artist-researchers practice. Further, the Paris excursion included a visit to the Catacombs, as in a chance to enter the urban subconscious. Then again, in contrast with visiting *Le Grands Ensembles* and Ivry-sur-Seine, a daytrip to *Monet's gardens* and the Monet Museum in Giverny was in order.

The programme was planned around meetings with long-time collaborators such as writer, dramaturg Ivana Momčilovic and philosopher Jacques Rancière – with whom we had a session in the Giverny setting. With kind and generous organisational support by our dear friend and collaborator I. Momčilovic, we also had the honor to meet with Kurdish linguist Gulistan Sido, indicator of the action of planting 4 million trees in the middle of the Rojava war zone ([Tresses vertes reforestation project](#)), and the Palestinian artist [Taysir Batniya in the opening of his exhibition](#) at the Pavillon Carré de Baudouin.

The excursion has resulted, aside with gaining new contacts and strengthening the existing ones, in activating further research on artistic activism, unplanning/unlearning, forming of associations to give permanence to temporary movements, and (other) collective means to address the political weight of collective action and everyday lives.