

# INVITATION

During his Erasmus mobility at Harokopio University,

**Frank Moulaert**

Emeritus Professor of Spatial Planning

University of KU Leuven

will offer a lecture, part of the Undergraduate course 'Urban Geography' and Postgraduate course 'Urban development and redevelopment policies' of the Geography Department on

## **"The Ethics of Socio-Political Transformation"**

on Tuesday 25 April 2023, at 18:00

at the Ceremony Hall

Interested Students, Faculty, Staff and Practitioners other than the regular attendees of the courses are more than welcome to join!

**Abstract:** Public debates on climate change refer to transition strategies in which diverse agents in society have different roles. High expectations are placed on the state and policy makers to address climate change through major initiatives. *But is this not a vain expectation?* Moulaert examines the typical agencies expected to make transition strategies happen. He focuses his talk on 'state ethics'. Are state agents capable of making this transition happen? What type of 'ethical mix' drives or paralyzes them? And an even more fundamental question: Which collective ethics have been 'steering' the state and state agents? What role have (collective) ethics had in the rise and consolidation of the (global) market, the capitalist state and the technocratic state system? Or do these ethics only serve as 'prayers after dinner' – ethically justifying what has already occurred? In addressing these questions, Moulaert seeks to identify the ethics that inspire typical agencies and examines their potential to drive socio-ecological transitions.