

Geography Days, Tampere University  
Keynote lecture, Friday 4 November at 10:00 (Pinni B1100 auditorium)

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## Urban Peripheries and the Right to Suburban Space

*Abstract:* This lecture discusses urban peripheries in the context of Nordic high-rise suburbs and suburban ways of living. Many suburbs in the Nordics are currently under urban development and renovation plans, which has increased the threat of displacement, and raised questions about the right to suburban space. In addition to the lack of affordable housing, there is a fear that future development will make it more difficult for some groups to make a life in the suburb, or to carry out alternative uses of public spaces. However, not only the suburbs themselves, but also their conceptualizations are under transformation. Recent scholarly debates have suggested a new understanding of urban peripheries that would reveal and deconstruct spatial categories and the assumed relations between the powerful center and the dominated urban fringes. In this speech, I will approach suburbs as significant places for urban existence, constituted in everyday life and in the claims for the right to suburban space. By utilizing research material on everyday suburban life, and latest debates on suburbanisms, urban peripheries and socio-spatial justice, I will outline how Nordic suburbs are constituted in the negotiations over rights, inclusion and belonging, and how today's suburbanisms could be better understood by thinking outside of the boxes of traditional geographical categories.