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URBAN GEOGRAPHY AT THE HEART OF URBAN TRANSITION



7th Belgium Geography Day

Theme 1: Cities

Jean-Marie Halleux – Liège – 17 of November 2017



ECOGEO
economic geography unit
service de géographie économique

Urban geography at the heart of urban transition

- 1. The urban transition**
- 2. Huge challenges**
- 3. Pressure on natural resources**
- 4. Transportation and energy**
- 5. Socio-spatial segregations**
- 6. Urban geography and urban governance**

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2. Huge challenges

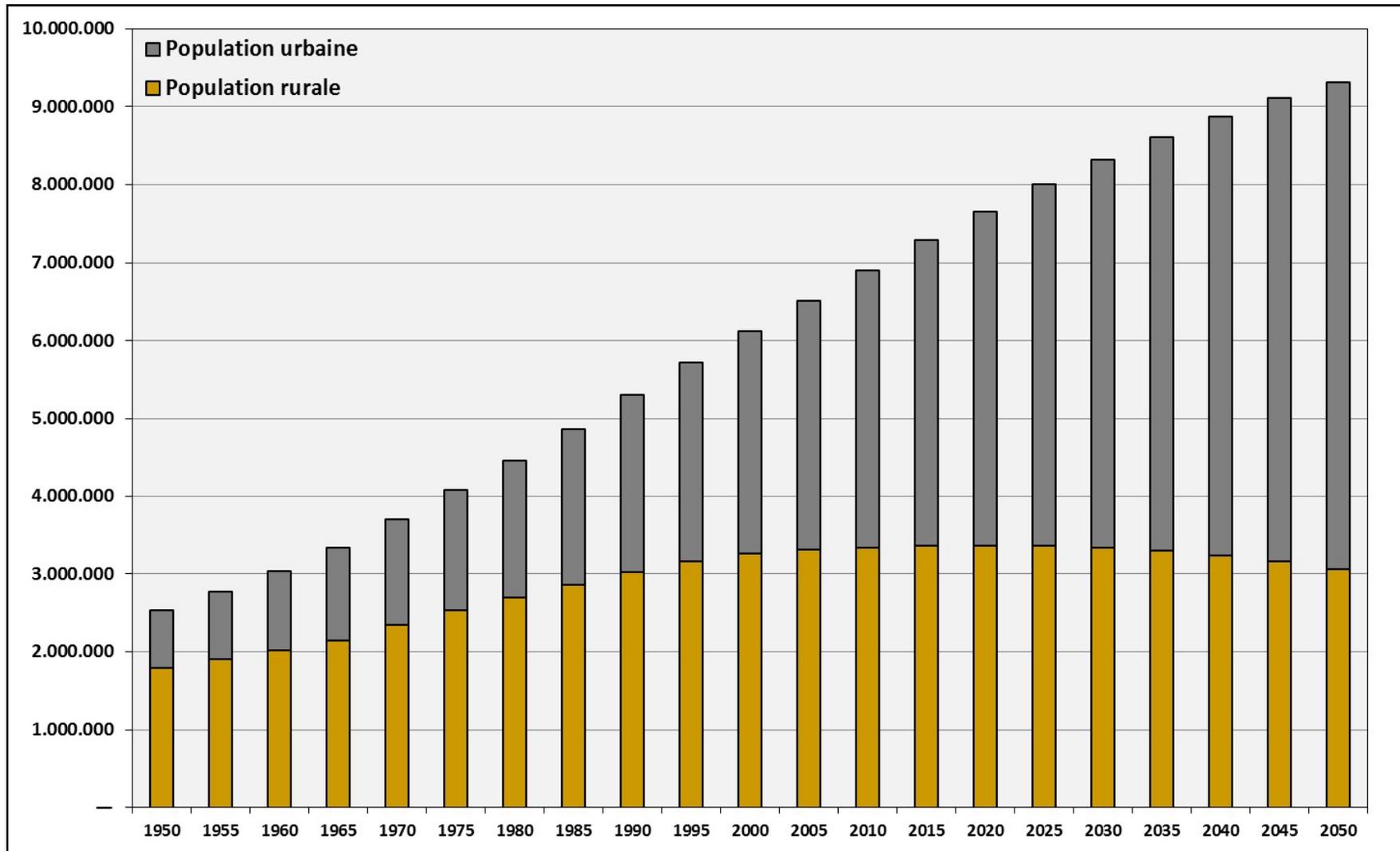
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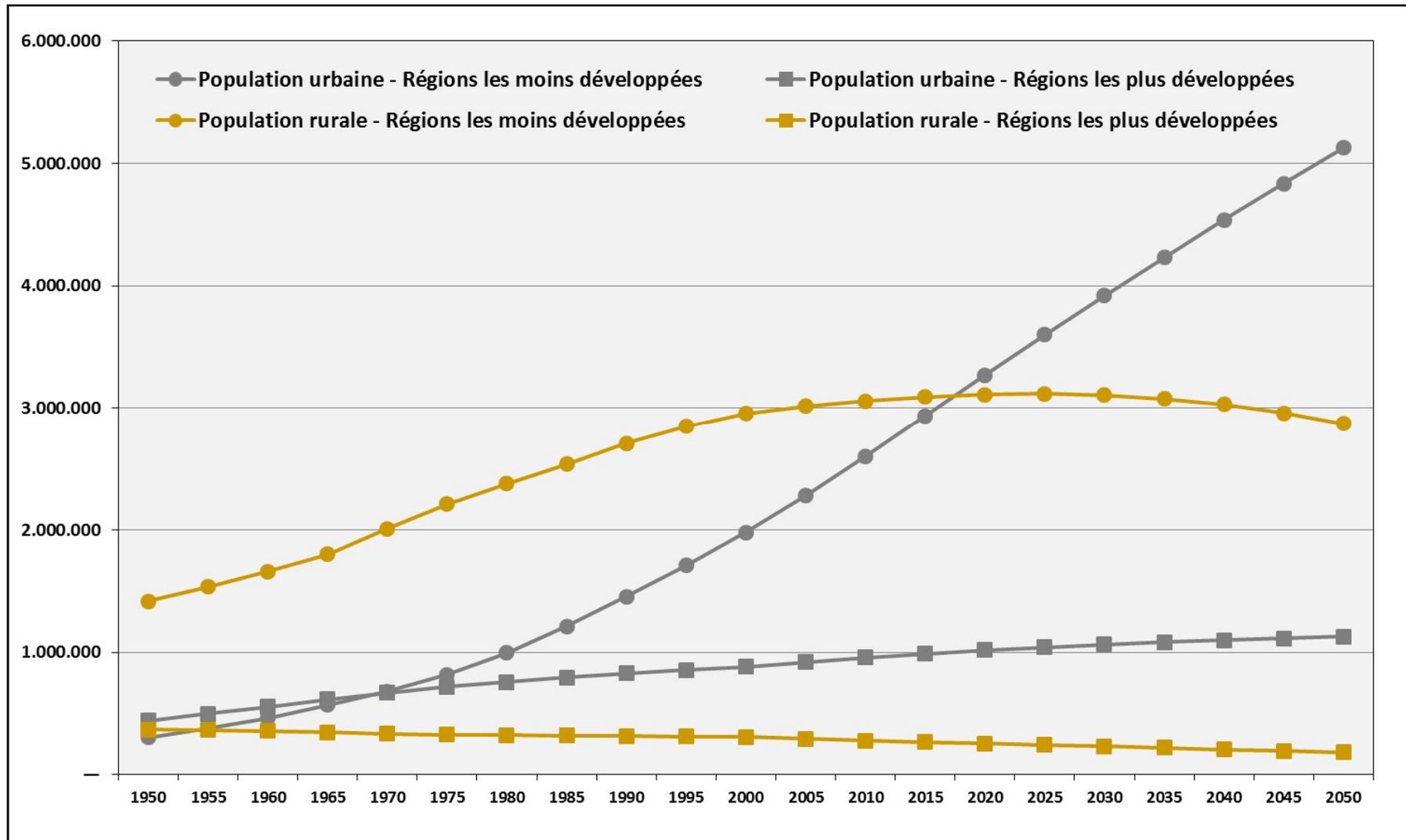
6. Urban geography and urban governance

The world is becoming increasingly urbanized



Source des données : United Nations, World Urbanization Prospects, the 2011 Revision (<http://esa.un.org/unup/index.html>) (consulté en juillet 2013)

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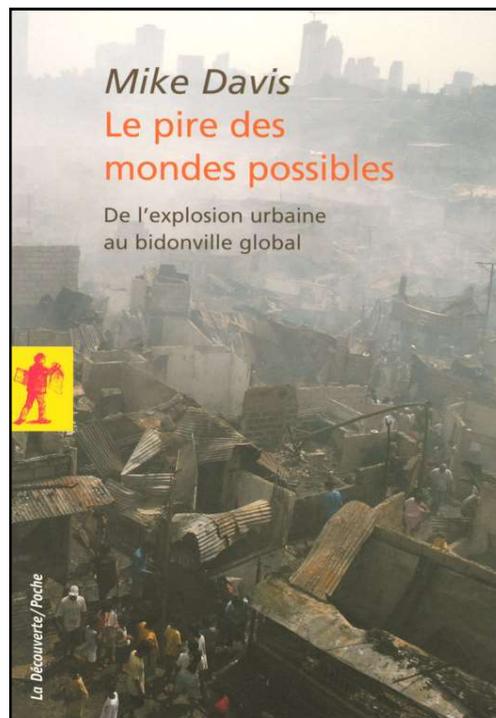
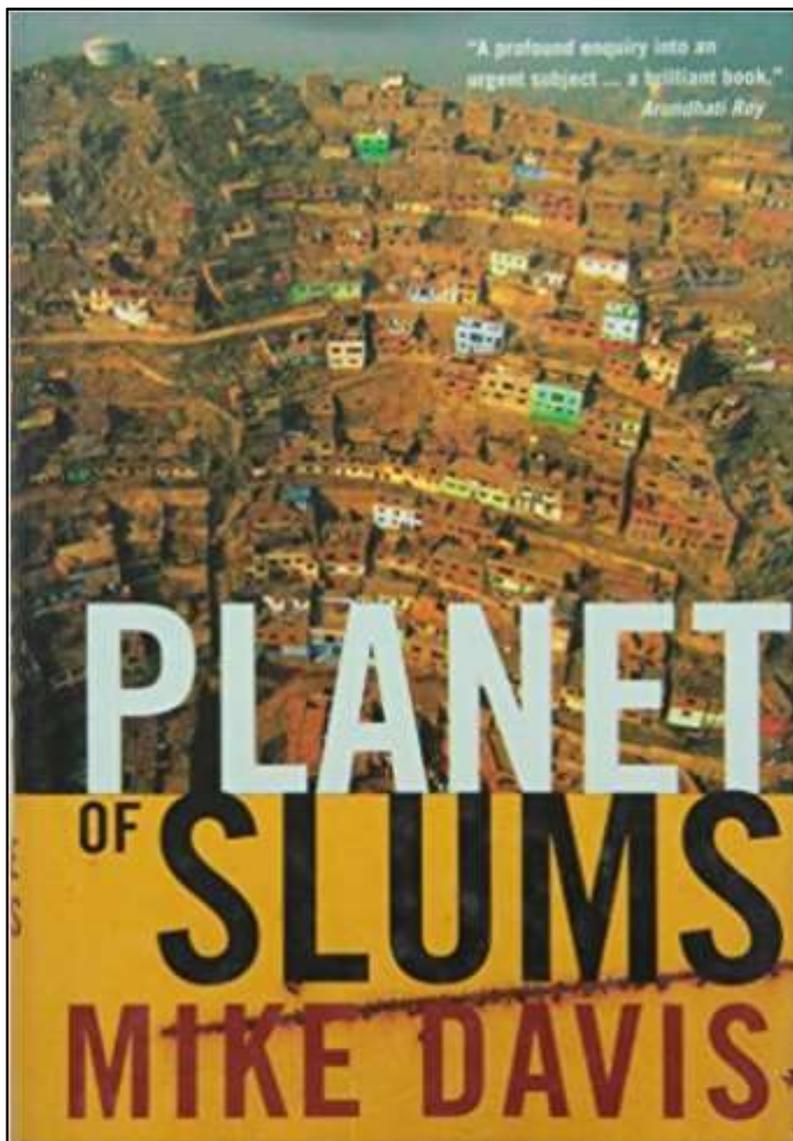
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Urban transition can lead to the worst of all possible worlds



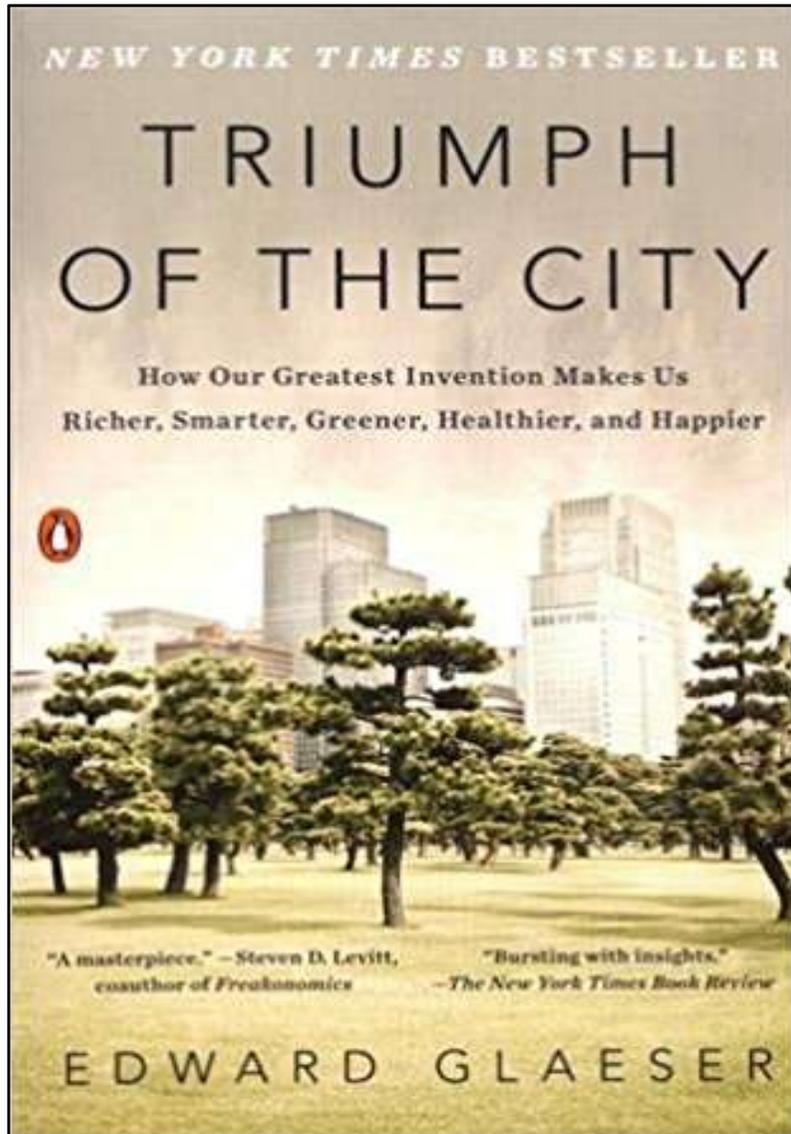
« Pour Mike Davis, la situation est désespérée, le monde urbain sera irrémédiablement coupé en deux : les quartiers réservés aux riches et une périphérie innommable pour les pauvres, entre les deux l'armée »

URBANISME

« For Mike Davis, the situation is desperate, the urban world will irrevocably be cut in half: the areas reserved for the rich and an unspeakable and horrible periphery for the poor, with the army between the two »

URBANISME

Urban transition can lead to the best of all possible worlds



« La pauvreté urbaine, malgré la peur qu'elle inspire, peut offrir un chemin vers la prospérité aussi bien aux individus qu'à l'ensemble de la nation. Le Brésil, la Chine et l'Inde deviendront probablement beaucoup plus riches dans les cinquante ans qui viennent, et cette richesse sera créée dans des villes connectées au reste du monde, et non dans des zones rurales isolées » (E. Glaeser, 2011, p. 96).

« Urban poverty, despite the terror it instills, can offer a path towards prosperity both for the poor and the nation as a whole. Brazil, China, and India are likely to become far wealthier over the next fifty years, and that wealth will be created in cities that are connected to the rest of the world, not in isolated rural areas »

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Brussels: the most congested road network in Europe !



Source : http://www.lavenir.net/cnt/DMF20110615_350 (consulté en septembre 2015)

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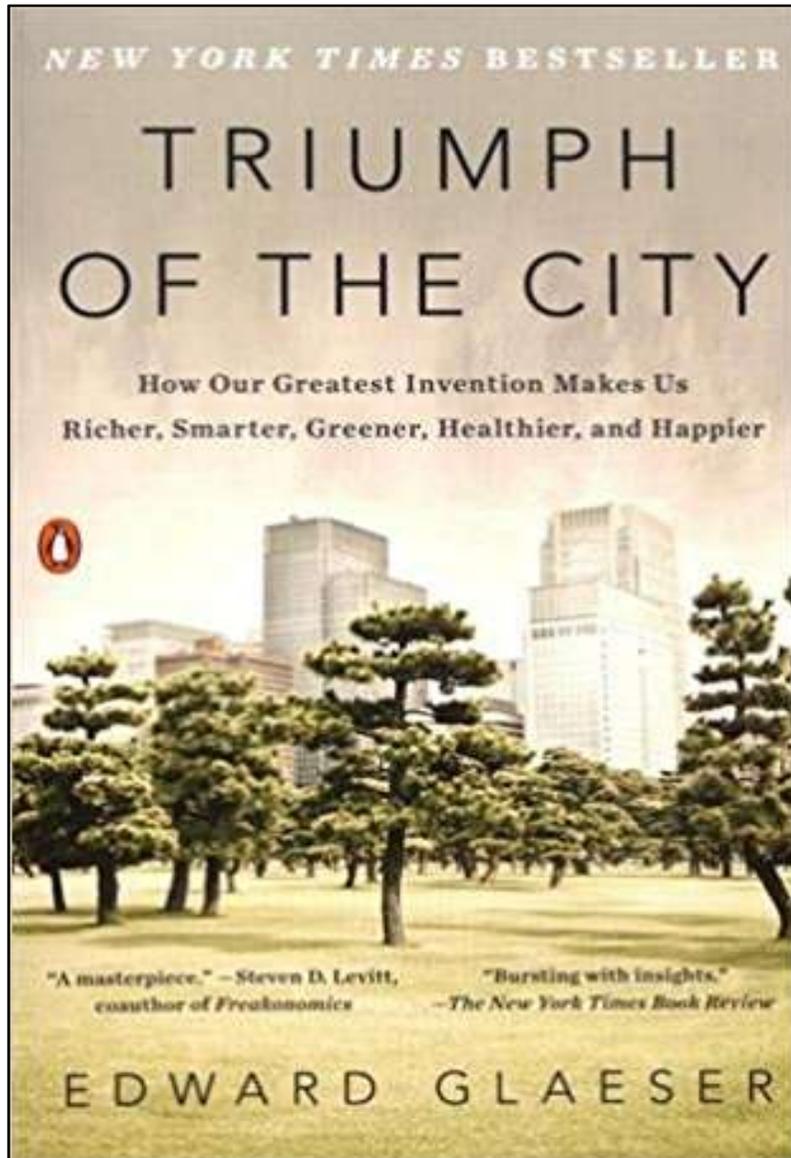
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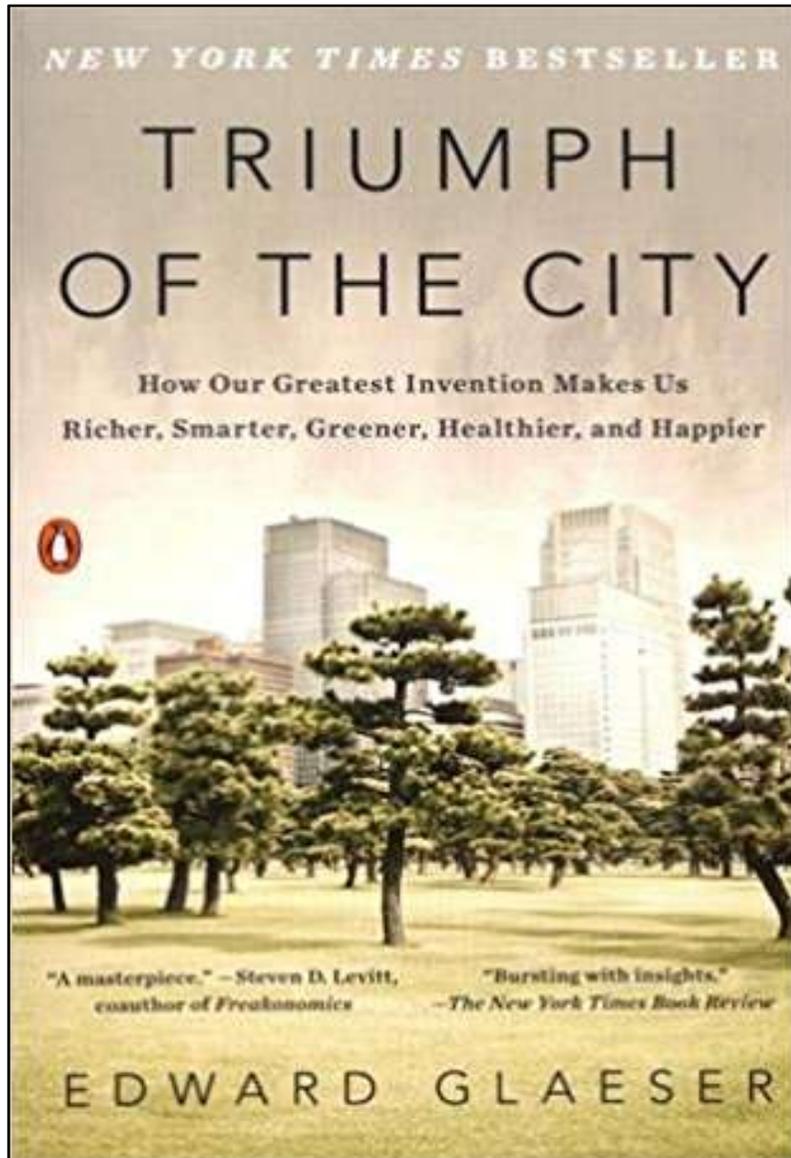
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« All of these challenges will place a tremendous responsibility on the shoulders of urban and regional planners who will be expected to help society navigate the future. »

Source: K. Kourtit, P. Nijkamp & N. Reid, 2014, « The new urban world: Challenges and policy », Applied Geography, 49, pp. 1-3.

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Thank you for your attention !

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