

Call for papers

Special Issue: Collective action, commons and commoning: towards the emergence of new forms of territorial development processes

Abstract

The concept of common goods is not new and it is at the heart of abundant research in many fields of social sciences and law. Emerging explicitly in territorial development and in particular in European urban areas (urban commons), common goods raise several questions. Crystallizing various current issues, mobilizing local communities, they have to do with energy transition, sustainable urban planning, management of natural resources, public spaces, the establishment of circular economy or urban ecosystems, cultural heritage, etc. The hypothesis we try to challenge is that; be it more or less inclusive / excluding, the phenomena such as: community gardens, social solidarity economy, collaborative or sharing economy, some short food supply chains, shared consumption, creative commons movements, etc. significantly participate to the «making» of territories and to their development. These phenomena question the way in which the development of territories is conceived today. The economic and competitiveness dimensions (creation of knowledge, productive resources, etc.) now also combine societal and non-economic aspects (improvement of well-being and quality of life, resilience, etc.). It tends to become increasingly explicit in development strategies. These phenomena are also signs of an evolution of our society towards more collective and participative modes of exploitation and management of territorial resources in which stakeholders and in particular users are involved. These approaches seem today to reflect an aspiration towards a more localized, inclusive, sustainable and equitable development model; without ignoring the tensions and conflicting dimensions of development. In this context, several questions emerge:

- What are new “territorial” commons, how do they develop across the world, and how do they contribute to innovation and territorial development? What is their value-added to territorial development strategies?
- How do these common goods mobilize the territory, its resources, its actors and its proximities?
- What implications do they have in terms of actors and governance? In particular, regarding equity (risks of exclusion phenomena and free riders), long-term management of the good (management of negative externalities, rivalries) and associated potential conflicts?
- How do these phenomena question territorial development? How do they contribute to the renewal of models, methods and approaches?

Submission Instructions

- This special issue aims at being multidisciplinary and is open to social sciences, humanities, planning studies, etc. It is also open to papers using qualitative and/or quantitative methods
- All papers submitted will be subject to the normal blind refereeing process undertaken by the journal
- Submit your paper via the journals website: <http://region.ersa.org>, where you can find detailed instructions and guidelines for preparing your submission
- Submitted papers must not be under review by any other journal
- Papers must be analytic and rigorous.

The closing date for submissions is 15th March 2019

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