EUROPE MATTERS:
European spatial planning, environmental policies and regional development

Europe Matters
Conference, 20-9-2012,
9.00-18.00 hours

Lux Theatre, Nijmegen
the Netherlands
Since the 1980s, The European Union has made major advances in regional and environmental policy, and in supporting cross-border and transnational cooperation on spatial planning. As a result, the influence of EU policies and actions on spatial and environmental planning in the EU member states have increased significantly. This development now appears at a critical crossroads, due to political drives towards policy renationalisation, and economic drives to subject major policies to the ‘Lisbon’ and ‘EU2020’ imperatives of innovation and competitiveness. Accordingly, while social and territorial cohesion and sustainability remain prominent ambitions, they are increasingly subsumed under a selective, ‘smart-green’ growth strategy, and become under pressure in the face of the Euro-crisis.

This one-day Conference discusses actual developments in Europe’s spatial and environmental policies, and the prospects for future development and cooperation. It will focus on the main ideas and drivers of policy development, as well as changes in planning practice.

The event also marks the launch of a new Master Programme in the field at Radboud University, the Erasmus Mundus Programme "PLANET Europe: European spatial planning, environmental policies and regional development”.

The Masters programme as well as the event are a joint initiative of the Radboud University Nijmegen (Netherlands), Blekinge Institute of Technology (Sweden) and Cardiff University (UK).

AUDIENCE

The Conference is intended for practitioners, researchers and students working in the field of European spatial-environmental policy and regional economic development.
Programme

9:00 - 9:30 WELCOME AND RECEPTION
Location: Café LUX

9:30 - 10:10 OPENING PANEL
Location: LUX 6

Prof. mr. S.C.J.J. Kortmann (Rector, Radboud University)
Dr. Andrew Flynn (Director of Graduate Studies, School of City and Regional Planning, Cardiff University)
Dr. Anders Hederstierna (Pro Vice Chancellor, Blekinge Institute of Technology)
Dr. Stefanie Dühr (project leader EURECA/ coordinator PLANET Europe)

10:10 - 11:10 KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS
Location: LUX 6

‘Big Problems, Big Government? Rethinking Environmental Governance’,
Prof. dr. Maarten Hajer (Director Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency & professor Public Policy at University of Amsterdam)

‘Recent developments and dilemmas in EU Cohesion policy’
Fiona Wishlade (Director European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, UK)

11:10 - 11:45 PLENARY DISCUSSION
Location: LUX 6

11:45 - 13:00 LUNCH
Location: Café LUX
13:00 - 14:30 WORKSHOPS, FIRST ROUND

Location: Lux and Villa Lux

1.1 River basin management in Europe and transboundary co-operation
   Location: VillaLUX 1

1.2. Planning and regional transition
   Location: LUX 6

1.3. The search for ‘landscape governance’ bridging environmental protection and local development
   Location: VillaLUX Gouden Zaal

1.4. Networks, power and environmental planning
   Location: VillaLUX 2

14:40 - 16:10 WORKSHOPS, SECOND ROUND

Location: Lux and Villa Lux

2.1. European pioneers in environmental policy and sustainability
   Location: VillaLUX 1

2.2. Europeanisation of planning education and the planning profession
   Location: VillaLUX 2

2.3. European spatial planning and territorial cooperation in times of economic crisis.
   Location: LUX 6

2.4. Regional policy under the spell of smart specialization
   Location: VillaLUX Gouden Zaal

16:00 - 17:00 CLOSING PLENARY: OUTLOOK ON PLAN(ET) EUROPE

Location: LUX 6

17:00 - 18:00 DRINKS

Location: LUX Foyer
**WORKSHOP 1.1.**

**RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT IN EUROPE; THE GOVERNANCE OF TRANSBOUNDARY CO-OPERATION**

**13.00 - 14.30 hrs. in VillaLUX 1**

River basin management is an important policy concept in European policies, as manifested in particular by the Water Framework Directive. Through this concept and directive, the EU seeks to stimulate and ‘govern’ transboundary co-operation. This workshop will pay attention to the following themes and issues through introductions and debate: What is the influence of ‘Europe’ in these issues?

- Can we speak of new modes of European governance in this respect?
- What can transboundary orientations and co-operation explain and add?

**Workshop convenor:**
Dr. Mark Wiering, Radboud University, m.wiering@fm.ru.nl

**Speakers:**

**Leo Santbergen**, water board Brabantse Delta and PhD RU Nijmegen.

*Leo Santbergen will talk about River basin management and the EU Water Framework Directive, focusing on the transboundary dimension of River basin management in water quality management, mainly in the Netherlands and Flanders.*

Referent: Mark Wiering, RU Nijmegen

**Thomas Hartmann**, Utrecht University, NL

*Thomas Hartmann will speak about “clumsy flood plain management”, focusing on differences and similarities of flood plain management and related planning in The Netherlands and Germany.*

Referent: Sander Meijerink, RU Nijmegen

**Aline te Linde**, Free University Amsterdam (VU) and Deltares

*Aline te Linde will discuss flood risk management in the Rhine River basin against the backdrop of adaptation to climate change. What about flood risks in the Rhine River basin, and what about coordinated adaptation to climate change across the Dutch-German border?*
WORKSHOP 1.2.
PLANNING AND REGIONAL TRANSITION

13.00 -14.30 hrs. in LUX 6

The global economy has speeded up the regional process of transformation while a growing number of researchers stress that regional development is path dependent. Future development of regions is strongly connected to the history of a region. As a result many regions are locked in to their industrial specialisation in mature industries and they are struggling hard with the economic transformation of the region. European Union’s cohesion policy, aiming at strengthening the competitiveness of the region, supports these efforts. The theme of this workshop is the possibilities and limitations of policy and planning as a tool to create regional transformation. The workshop consists of introductory presentations followed by a discussion.

Workshop convenor:
Prof. dr. Jan-Evert Nilsson, Blekinge institute of Technology,
jan-evert.nilsson@bth.se

Presentations:

Prof. dr. Jan-Evert Nilsson
“Planning for an unknown future; Regions in transition”

M.Sc. Alina Lidén
“When the giants come together! The creation of a regional cluster”

M.Sc. Ana Mafalda Mudureira.
“Commodification through place fabrication”
WORKSHOP 1.3.
COPING WITH THE TENSION BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN SPATIAL PLANNING

13.00 -14.30 hrs. in VillaLUX Gouden Zaal

Planning on the local and regional level is an arena for competition between development-oriented planning and preservation-oriented environmental management. Spatial planning and environmental management in, for example, the Nordic countries have different historical roots, administrative and professional cultures and thought styles or “paradigms” and more or less separate legislation. With relatively loose frame-work legislation the framing of problems and issues become important for implementation. EU directives and policies furthermore seem to strengthen the natural science, rationalist position of the environmentalists. This workshop will present and discuss both the research basis and the implications for “landscape governance”.

The workshop will consist of the presentations (15 min/presentation) followed by max 5 min. for immediate questions. After the presentations the remaining workshop time is for open discussion (with the audience) about the topics raised. The session and the discussion is chaired by Lars Emmelin.

Workshop convenor:
Prof. dr. Lars Emmelin, Blekinge Institute of Technology, lars.emmelin@bth.se

Presentations:

Prof. dr. Lars Emmelin
“The Swedish landscape - an arena for the struggle between spatial planning and environmental management”

Eric Markus
“Environmental impact assessment and planning considerations”

Stefan Larsson
“Objectively best or most acceptable? Power hierarchies and knowledge types in the development of wind power and 3G infrastructure in Sweden”
WORKSHOP 1.4.
NETWORKS, POWER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

13.00 - 14.30 hrs. in VillaLUX 2

The purpose of this session is to take forward critical perspectives on planning theory and practice. From an environmental planning perspective infrastructure projects, such as waste, water, transport, bring together contested technological choices and well developed actor networks speaking for and against a proposal. It is particularly important to understand how these networks enrol actors and deploy resources to support their perspective. Papers are particularly welcomed that can contribute to debates on productive ways forward to a) conceptualise and b) empirically (e.g. through case studies) research power relations within a network setting. The workshop consists of presentations and discussion.

Workshop convenor:
Dr. Andrew Flynn, Cardiff University, flynnac@cardiff.ac.uk.
WORKSHOP 2.1.
EUROPEAN PIONEERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY

14.40 - 16.10 hrs. in VillaLUX 1

Europe’s environmental policies show a marked pattern of leaders and laggards. While some countries, regions and cities are keen pioneers in environmental policy and sustainability, others are slow to adapt. Patterns of leaders and laggards, moreover, change over time. This workshop will discuss the role of ‘Sustainability Pioneers’ in Europe at different scales, both local/regional and national. We will discuss governance strategies of regional actors, comparative research in pioneering regions and the role of nation-states as pioneers in environmental policy. What lessons can be learnt regarding the role of regions and nation states, and for the EU as a whole? This workshop will discuss the need for differentiation and bring together different experiences from across the Union.

Workshop convenors:
Dr. Duncan Liefferink, GPE, Radboud University, d.liefferink@fm.ru.nl
Dr. Mark Wiering, GPE, Radboud University, m.wiering@fm.ru.nl.

Chair: Dr. Mark Wiering.

Presentations:

Dr. Thomas Hoppe
Twente Centre for Studies in Technology and Sustainable Development (CSTM)
School of Management and Governance (MB) Institute for Innovation and Governance Studies (IGS) at the University of Twente.

Title presentation: “Measurement of local sustainability performance and the roles of pioneering municipalities”

Dr. Pieter Zwaan
Assistant professor in Public Administration at the Radboud University Nijmegen. Pieter also works part-time as a deputy secretary for the Provincial Council on the Environment Gelderland.

Title presentation: “Struggling with Europe, Pioneering with horizontal forms of governance”

Dr. Duncan Liefferink
Department of Political Sciences of the Environment, Radboud University Nijmegen

Title presentation: “Environmental pioneers in retreat? The cases of The Netherlands and Denmark”
WORKSHOP 2.2.
EUROPEANISATION OF PLANNING EDUCATION AND THE PLANNING PROFESSION

14.40 - 16.10 hrs. in VillaLUX 2

EU programmes (e.g., ERASMUS, TEMPUS etc) facilitating the exchange of professionals, academics and students between European and Partner nations as well as the Bologna process have created a host of opportunities for "European-wide" learning and working ranging from individual exchanges to innovative inter-institutional international Masters Programmes such as PLANET Europe. EU labour laws foresee that planning practitioners should be able to work without barriers in all EU countries. On one hand, considering the different interpretations of planning in different EU countries, one might question the feasibility of this mobility in terms of professional qualifications; on the other hand transnational planning projects and the implications of EU directives may require a new kind of planning professional with a European perspective and understanding of planning. This workshop will explore the meaning of Europeanisation of planning education and the profession in the broadest sense. The workshop will stimulate debate on the topic whether there is a Europeanisation of planning education and the profession and what forms or progress has been made. We will look at issues of planning curricula, potential benefits and drawbacks of Europeanisation in its different forms, we will examine the views of students, staff and practitioners.

In the workshop hort presentations from 4 panelists will be followed by a open debate. We hope to formulate an agenda for future work and research.

Workshop convenors:
Dr. Andrea Frank, Cardiff University, FrankA@cardiff.ac.uk
Dr. Eric Markus, Blekinge Institute of Technology, Eric.Markus@BTH.se

Presentations:

Dr. Andrea Frank (Cardiff University, UK)
“Europeanisation of planning - Implications for curricula, education and profession (introduction)”

Francois-Olivier Seys (Lille, France)
“Integrating European planning ideas/knowledge in the curriculum”

Eric Marcus (Blekenige Institute of Technology, Sweden)
“European ‘added value’ in planning education - student perceptions”

Henk van der Kemp (DIT, Ireland)
“How to Improve Opportunities for Mobility of Planners across Europe”
Workshop 2.3.
European Spatial Planning and Territorial Cooperation in Times of Economic Crisis: A Role for an Integrated Spatial Approach?

14.40 - 16.10 hrs. in LUX 6

In the current economic situation, the value of integrated spatial development perspectives is increasingly questioned in many EU countries. National and regional spatial planning is being reformed or even abolished, as in England, as a consequence of changes to sub-national government structures. Also at EU and transnational levels, the enthusiasm of the 1990s to prepare integrated spatial visions seems to have waned - or has it? After all, the question of coordinating actors and spatially-relevant policies continues to be high on EU agendas, as the recent examples of macro-regional strategies for the Baltic Sea Region and the Danube corridor demonstrate. Also within member states, e.g. at city-region level, and at cross-border level the need to address functional relationships across political and administrative borders remains an important issue. Within the context of the EU proposals for the future of territorial cooperation in the 2014-2020 programming period, this workshop will discuss questions in relation to the role and objectives of strategic spatial planning in and for Europe. Is there (still) a role for strategic spatial planning at EU and transnational levels in the currently changing context? How could such spatial visions be prepared, what would be their objectives, and how can they be more effectively applied or implemented to achieve their ambitions? How can spatial developments be coordinated at functional scales if the capacities for strategic spatial planning within the member states are being hollowed out? Would the approaches to territorial cooperation - INTERREG cross-border and transnational programmes, EGTCs, macro-regional strategies etc. - benefit from a stronger spatial planning approach, and if so, how could or should this be organized?

Workshop convenors:
Dr. Stefanie Dühr, Radboud University Nijmegen, s.duhr@fm.ru.nl.
Dr. Magdalena Belof, Wroclaw University of Technology, magdalena.belof@pwr.wroc.pl.
2.3. Workshop Programme

14.40 - 14.50: Introduction to the workshop and the panelists (Dr. Stefanie Dühr)

14.50 - 15.25: Panel discussion with:

Dr. Kai BÖHME, Spatial Foresight GmbH, Luxembourg

Prof. Dr. Andreas FALUDI, Professor of Spatial Policy Systems in Europe, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

Prof. Vincent NADIN, Professor of Spatial Planning and Strategy, Department of Urbanism, Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands

Mr. Géza SALAMIN, Head of Department, Ministry for National Economy, State Secretariat of Planning Co-ordination, Department for Territorial Development Planning, Budapest, Hungary

15.25 - 16.00: Discussion with panelists and audience (Chair: Dr. Stefanie Dühr)

16.00-16.10: Summing up: what role for integrated spatial strategies? (Dr. Magdalena Belof)
Smart specialisation is roughly a response to two developments. First, the way global value chains are becoming more articulated or unbundled, where each aspect of the chain itself is manifesting global forms of organisation: production, knowledge, capital, people, etc. Even the most 'classical' clusters show this kind of trends, such as the cut flower industry in Holland or the textiles districts in Mid-Italy.

A key topic in 'smart specialisation' is that regions should not just strive to be competitive in a specific market/sector, but that should they aim for a competitive position in a particular value chain, by being strategically embedded in chains of knowledge, capital and people. So it is not just 'Health Valley' - but a specific position in certain global health 'chains'. For 'non core' areas, this requires specific strategies of intelligence, of and engagement with, 'core' actors (both organisational - firms and other - and spatial - liaising with core clusters).

Smart specialisation requires both focus and flexibility. Even more than in the past regions are challenged to think how local strengths can be nurtured and employed to foster a range of competitive positions. Preferably such positions should be in different value chains to sustain a certain level of diversity and resilience against economic shocks. The role of talented labour has become more prominent, notably in the form of a 'human capital' track. However, how we nurture, attract and retain talent in view of 'smart specialisation' remains a vexed question. A first question is where do we start? Should we invest in particular strands of education and training, building the human capital that, in turn, shapes a region's 'smart specialisation'; or should we start with 'smart specialisation' strategies, observing which kind of demand for labour they generate, and adapting educational investments accordingly?

The debate will be infused by two introductions. Prof. Rehfeld from Institute Work & Technology, Gelsenkirchen and Prof. Dankbaar from Radboud University. The introductions will review recent international developments in regional development and policy, focusing on the move from clustering to smart specialisation, and then zoom in onto the significance of these moves for the province of Gelderland and the city-region of Arnhem-Nijmegen in particular.

Workshop convenor:
Dr. Arnoud Lagendijk, Radboud University Nijmegen, a.lagendijk@fm.ru.nl.
Conference locations

Lux Theatre and VillaLUX are both located in the city centre of Nijmegen, at walking distance of Nijmegen Central Station. The locations, LUX theatre and VillaLUX, are within walking-distance (10min. walk). Convenient parking is available in parking ‘Mariënburg’ located next to Lux Theatre.

- LUX, Mariënburg 38-39, 6511 PS Nijmegen, Tel. (+31) (0)24 3221612
  - Opening Panel, Keynote presentations, Plenary discussion and closing plenary.
  - Workshop 1.2 and workshop 2.3.
  - Lunch & Drinks

- Villa LUX, Oranjesingel 42, 6511 NW Nijmegen, Tel. (+31) (0) 24 3223606
  - Workshops 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1, 2.2. and 2.4

For routes, see [http://www.lux-nijmegen.nl/info/contact/routes/](http://www.lux-nijmegen.nl/info/contact/routes/). Intercity trains run from Amsterdam via Utrecht to Nijmegen every 15 min. For public transport planning see [http://9292.nl/en](http://9292.nl/en).

See next page for an overview of Nijmegen and a detailed map of the conference locations.

**CONTACT**

For up-to-date information, please see [www.planet-europe.eu](http://www.planet-europe.eu).

In case of any additional practical or content related questions you can contact our conference organiser Annelies Wesselink, +31 629730262 or conference@planet-europe.eu.
Central Station to conference location LUX

Conference locations LUX and Villa LUX