

EDITORIAL

This issue of *Revista Paranaense de Desenvolvimento* progresses with continuous concern about different approaches to present subjects – which reflects in its structure and the manner its sections are presented.

Therefore, the first section brings a dossier called Public Policies in Brazil and Territory Idealization, organized by Gislene Pereira - architect and urban planner, doctor in Environment and Development by Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR), professor from the Architecture and Urban Planning Department at the same institution – and Clovis Ultramari, architect and urban planner, doctor in Environment and Development by Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR), professor at Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUCPR), from its Architecture and Urban Planning Department and Urban Administration postgraduate program.

The dossier comprises six studies about the territorial implementation of public policies, or a compilation of governmental initiatives concretized at particular segments of a territory.

These articles have in common a concern about the State's role albeit the analysis differ in context. Thus, this dossier begins with a deliberation about the metropolitan complexity, moves toward rural spaces, presents a reading of region subject to large scale projects, progress to the study of a particular state (Paraná) and, finally, exams the european multi-state structure.

The search for common points in such diverse authorship might lead, at first sight, to the perception of strong pessimism or at least a disappointment about the observed regionalization initiatives.

In fact, Olga Firkowski's article *Some reasons that may explain why metropolitan regions in Brazil are regions but aren't metropolitan*, a tacit apprehension about the creation of such municipal associations without necessary conceptual responsibility. Jorge Ramón Montenegro Gómez and Jorge Luiz Favaro, in *A critical reading on actual rural territorial development: between possibilities and implementation*, demonstrate a strong suspicion of development forms that reveal nothing but frustration, weak results and "a fragile balance between advances and deviation"; Douglas Monte Barbosa and Fernanda Ester Sánchez García, in *Enterprise-region: planning, territorial restructuring and large-scale projects in Alto Paraopeba, Minas Gerais*, are uneasy about how the regional space is subject to productive capital demands; Christian Luiz da Silva, Sigrid Andersen and Karin Kässmayer, in *Comparative evaluation of three environmental policies in Paraná State: the EEZ, the GERCO and incentive policies to agroecology*, discuss the disassociation between public policies' objectives and real development strategies in Brazil – also exposing the dichotomy between

environmental protection and economic growth; Vicente Ferreira de Castro Neto concludes, in *Paraná: urban policies, metropolization and humane cities – a territorial approach*, that the territorial planning in the state occurs exclusively with intermitted and isolated characteristics; at last, Paulo Alexandre do Nascimento Castro Seixas, in *Policies and models of territorial development in Europe and Portugal*, reports the incoherence of a development model based on the center-periphery relation and on a possible familiarity between competitiveness and consortium.

However, a deeper reading would alternate this pessimism and a clear critical position, with solutions being indicated. This incredulous, critical and propositional position summarize this dossier's importance.

The creation of metropolitan regions is seen by Olga Firkowski as an opportunity to think about regional associations. According to the author, despite a possible "loss of conceptual purity", the associative effort produces gains. Jorge Ramón Montenegro Gómez and Jorge Luiz Favaro reveal a belief in possible "breaches opened with effort and constancy by social groups". Douglas Montes Barbosa and Fernanda Ester Sánchez García, based on other authors, refer to planning capable of being "an advantageous element for systemic action when auspicious circumstances arise". It would enable the State to form partnerships, to "remove obstacles at the basic social capital, expanding accumulation horizons for the private sector". Christian Luiz da Silva, Sigrid Andersen and Karin Kässmayer suggest policies able to "overcome problems and minimize fragilities, in search for a new pattern of environmental governance". Vicente Ferreira de Castro Neto, recalling *Antigone*, by Sophocles, states that "cities are the people". Finally, Paulo Alexandre do Nascimento Castro Seixas reveals belief in the defeat of regional competitiveness by the venture's counterparts. We believe that the identification of such dualities is the main strenght of this series of articles.

After the dossier, in the articles section, six contributions analyze themes associated to economics, agro-industry, demography and rural tourism at the State of Paraná.

The first of them, *Agro-industry cooperatives in the State of Paraná and the role of BRDE as their development inducer*, Wellington Pereira and Simone Cazarotto present some indicators that illustrate the significant evolution of cooperatives' agro-industrial production in Southern Brazil, particularly in the State of Paraná. Cooperatives' success is directly linked to the economic support given by Banco Regional de Desenvolvimento do Extremo Sul (BRDE) through long term credit.

Consecutively, Marina Cardoso Oliveira, Geraldino Carneiro Araújo and students Aline Silva Gomes Vaz, Jaqueline Silva Lima, Juliana Fernanda

Barros, Vanessa Flávia Freitas Souza and Vanderlei Souza Monteiro, still debating cooperative association, approach in *Recyclable materials collectors and their work values: cooperative work expectations*, the personal values and prospects of recyclable materials collectors in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul.

The third article, *Agribusiness consolidation at the State of Paraná and its relation to Mercosur: an analysis from 1999 to 2009*, Mirian Beatriz Schneider Braun, Rubiane Daniele Cardoso, Vanessa de Souza Dahmer and Rúbia Nara Rinaldi exam the agro-industry's consolidation at the State of Paraná and its relation with Mercosur between the 1999-2009 period, through the Geometric Growth Rate (GGR).

Agro-industry is also analyzed in face of the agricultural census in the text *Added value in the rural agro-industries: an analysis based on the agricultural census data*. Authors Marcio Gazolla, Paulo Andre Niederle and Paulo Dabdab Waquil deal with value aggregation in brazilian rural agro-industry. They use information from microdata tabulations, which allowed them to build a sectorial and macro-regional comparisons.

The fifth article, *Demographic dynamic in the State of Paraná: recent tendencies, perspectives and challenges*, by Marisa Valle Guimarães and Anael Pinheiro de Ulhôa Cintra, brings a panorama of the state's demography in the past decades, highlighting changes, regional diversity, directions and repercussions.

Finalizing the articles section, the study *Environmental language and hiking promotion: ethnography of a rural tourism policy in Vale do Ivaí, State of Paraná*, in which Rodrigo Toniol and Carlos Alberto Steil demonstrate the interest for Caminhadas na Natureza, a hiking program in the State of Paraná. They emphasize how this public policy relates to broad transformations, contributing to popularize the environmental issue, making it a moral, ethical and aesthetic matter.

There is the expectation that this issue's dossier – and the other articles – thrust thinking transformation, instigate new research and contribute to the debate regarding the presented themes.

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