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Urban peripheries: The political dynamics of planning projects

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The urban periphery is a key planning object in polycentric metropolitan areas. In defining new urban agendas planners need to employ alternative concepts of spatial quality, connectivity, centrality and political representation. The periphery is a space for experimentation often conducted through large scale development projects which attempt to govern urban change. This research investigates the political challenges, dilemma and tensions that characterize progressive or conservative planning practices in peripheral areas. It explores the relationship between the political and electoral conflict of major city-regional planning agents and the emergence of a new urban agendas for border areas. It concludes on the need to address fundamental political dilemmas of planning, embodied in problematic notions of regulation, investments and interventions.

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