

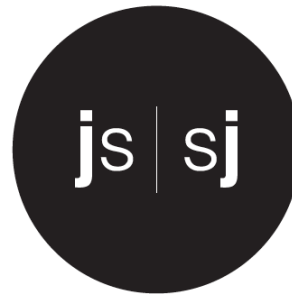


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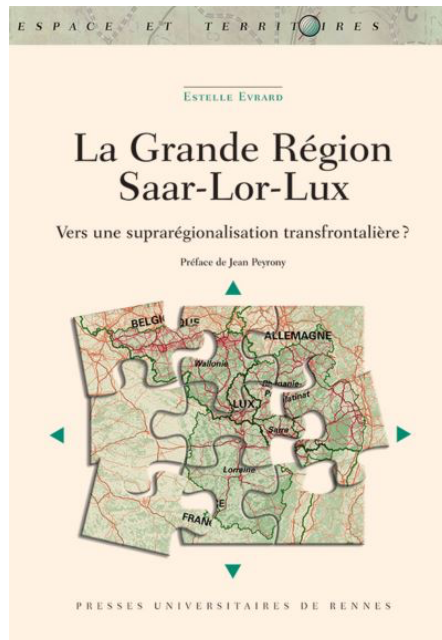
Rethinking cross-border areas under the lens of spatial justice

CESCI 10 anniversary | 25.04.2019 | Budapest

Context of this presentation



UniGR-CBS working group
on spatial planning



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Spatial justice: a definition

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- The concept of spatial justice indicates **equity in social space**, integrating five dimensions of justice: **social, procedural, distributive, spatial and temporal** (Madanipour et al., 2017: 74).
- **Justice is a comparative concept**: it is a process of judgement on the quality of relations between two or more states of affairs. On their own, the number and composition of agents and material objects are not judged to be just or unjust. It is only when they mediate the relations between people and territories, and only in comparison with others, that they find such meanings. Relations, therefore, are the focus of analysis. Through them, the power arrangements that make up spatial governance, behaviour of actors, access to material goods and services, spatial and social relations between them, composition of localities and their relations with other localities become just or unjust” (Madanipour et al., 2017: 78).
- Spatial justice focuses on both
 - the just geographic distribution of resources and opportunities,
 - and on the power relations that cause (in)justice between social groups and between spaces.

EPA Alzette Belval Case
study analysis

BELGIQUE

Bruxelles

Namur

WALLONIE

LUXEM-
BOURG

Trèves

Luxembourg

PED de Longwy

Alzette-Belval

Metz

Meuse

LORRAINE

Nancy

Meurthe-et-
Moselle

Vosges

RHÉNANIE-
PALATINAT

SARRE

Sarrebruck

Moselle

ALLEMAGNE

Secrétariat
du Sommet de la
Grande Région

INTERREG
Grande Région

Eurodistrict SaarMoselle

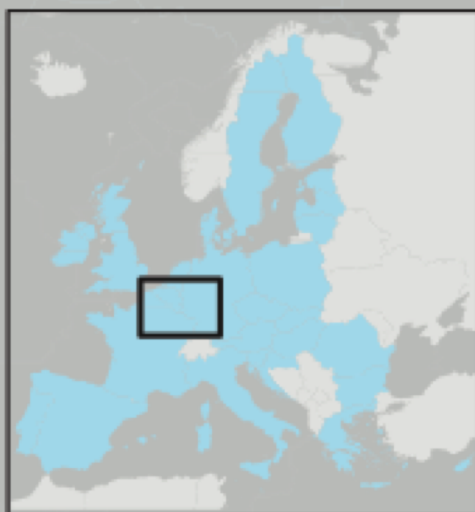
GECT

GECT

GECT

GECT

50 km



Perceived injustice

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“The issue of territorial inequalities is very strong, it is palpable. When you go from France to Luxembourg, you are really in quite different worlds. This reality is reflected in socioeconomic trends. We face a colossal paradox: the population moves in this territory, which however loses employment in absolute value. Employment is being drained by Luxembourg, with all the disorder this can mean.”

“The proximity of Luxembourg is an opportunity for the territory, it would be insane to deny it. However, you would be blind not to see the consequences of the mode of development on the border territory. (...) The Grand Duchy has developed like other major urban centres around the world. But unlike other metropolises, this metropolisation spills over into neighbouring countries, and does so without consultation with the territories on which it spills over. This phenomenon raises various issues: mobility, of course, but also health, vocational training.”

Extract from quotations,
EPA Alzette Belval case study analysis, field work 2018, Estelle Evrard. [More info](#)



Villerupt city hall displays the poster of the Italian film festival, the most popular cultural event of the year (on the left) and a banner (on the right) claiming for a “fair distribution of border taxation”.

Spatial justice: Conceptual challenges & Application scope

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Conceptual challenges

- Equality # Equity
- Disparity # Inequality # Injustice
- Which scale?

Application scope

- Distribution of power | Modes of leadership
- Participation | Accountability | Legitimacy | Transparency
- Place-based knowledge | Organisational & individual learning
- Impact

→ Spatial justice allows adopting a proactive view on disparities and mechanisms that can contribute to cope with them (i.e. distributive or procedural)

→ Spatial planning and public policies as leverage

Selected bibliography



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More information

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[RELOCAL project](#) #h2020relocal

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