

NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2018

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

TS-09

GOVERNANCE ACROSS LOCAL BOUNDARIES: HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL COOPERATION IN EUROPEAN METROPOLITAN CITIES

Keywords: Metropolitan Cities; Institutional Cooperation; Metropolitan Identities; Strategic Spatial Planning; Administrative Functions.

Processes of institutional rescaling are taking place in many European countries and find different expression: the amalgamation of municipalities, the definition of new urban/metropolitan authorities and the emergence of new commitments to co-operate in planning and governing the metropolitan area. These reforms occur both in countries where metropolitan institutions were already in place (UK, Spain) and in countries that have just defined metropolitan cities as a new level of government (Italy, France). The recent institution of Metropolitan Cities in Italy has conveyed to a process of institutional rescaling concerning the government of urban regions, generating new conflicts and new ways of intending and managing existing cooperations.

The challenges that cooperation has to face are always connected to traditional limits of local administration, as irregularity and fragmentation between Municipalities, high costs deriving from the lack of an optimal size for administrative government, the rigidity of administrative boundaries in face of local and metropolitan identities.

The session aims to analyse the forms of territorial cooperation at the metropolitan scale, for understanding the forms and outcomes of cooperative practices at a supra-local inter-municipal level. In particular, papers are welcome on forms of horizontal cooperation between Municipalities inside Metropolitan Cities and Metropolitan Cities, as well as vertical forms of cooperation among national, regional and metropolitan level.

The session will deal both with policies, acts (i.e. strategic and territorial metropolitan plans) and functions, and with normal procedures and technical administrative instruments - e.g. mandate of functions, sharing offices, agreements between public bodies - that will allow to find the optimal size to put in place spatial planning activities and exercise administrative functions or to foster administrative efficiency.

The discussion will thus move in the shift from informal to formal practices, from voluntary to institutionalised agreements, in order to define pertinent spaces and procedures of cooperation for governing and planning strategically across local boundaries and to identify the relevant subjects to involve in the planning and government process with respect to the addressed issues.

CHAIRS

Valeria Lingua - University of Florence, Department of Architecture, Regional Design Lab

Giuseppe Mobilio - University of Florence, Department of Juridical Sciences

