

Spatial Planning Systems in Europe

Comparison and Trajectories

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Edited by Vincent Nadin, Emeritus Professor of Spatial Planning and Strategy, Department of Urbanism, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands, Giancarlo Cotella, Associate Professor of Spatial Planning, Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning, Politecnico di Torino, Italy and Peter Schmitt, Professor of Human Geography with focus on Urban and Regional Planning, Department of Human Geography, Stockholm University, Sweden

This insightful book provides a comprehensive and comparative account of the current state and trajectories of spatial planning in 32 European countries. The book also explains how European governments are reforming spatial planning to meet new challenges, and how the European Union and its Cohesion Policy have shaped change through the Europeanisation of territorial governance.

'Incisive, insightful, and indisputably the most current and comprehensive treatise on spatial planning on the European continent. Written by a team of Europe's leading planning scholars, the book does much more than characterize and contrast some 250 planning instruments and 31 planning structures in the European Union, but brings clarity to the nuanced concepts of territorial cohesion, balanced development, subsidiarity and indeed the distinctive meaning of the term spatial planning itself. In doing so it provides a conceptual foundation for assessing whether the European Union is progressing towards a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous European continent. The book is a must-read for students of planning systems all over the globe and especially for those who seek to understand, or strive to meet, the spatial complexities of the European experiment.'

– Gerrit-Jan Knaap, University of Maryland, US

'It is essential for governments to comprehend spatial planning systems to achieve sustainability and resilience in the face of climate challenges. This book provides insights from 39 European countries about the changing landscape of spatial planning reform. It is a valuable resource that navigates the complexities of territorial governance, and promotes collaborative and inclusive approaches for effective planning. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in this subject!'

– Tuna Tasan-Kok, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands,

'This extensive comparison of planning practices across vertical and horizontal systems within the European context is an extremely valuable contribution to a necessary rethinking of what the future of planning needs to look like in times of accelerating change, growing uncertainty, and constant disruption. A must-read for every planner who has an interest in learning from different planning systems and improving the work planners do.'

– Petra Hurtado, American Planning Association, Chicago, US

'This book offers a comprehensive comparison of spatial planning as practised throughout Europe. Hailing from its various corners, the authors cast their nets wider and offer a veritable compendium, of the state of the art.'

– Andreas Faludi, Emeritus Professor of Spatial Policy Systems in Europe, Delft, the Netherlands



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