

What is left of planning?

Call for papers for International Planning Studies - Deadline Monday 17 December

Pursuing its mission to improve and enhance discussion and exchange on current and emerging issues in planning from a critical perspective, IPS opens a call for papers focussing on 'What is left of planning?'.

The editors would be interested in a broad range of contributions from theoretical and historical analyses of the rise of neo-liberal thinking in planning through to reports and reflections by planning practitioners on local practices which have challenged orthodoxy from a left point of view.

The call follows the birth and first symposium of Planning Network UK, an 'organisation seeking to establish a network to support critical thinking about the current state of planning in the UK' (PNUK, 2006) and comprising both professionals and researchers in the field of planning. The aim of the call is to promote the production and submission of a series of progressive and/or critical papers in planning research focussing on the shifting role and aims of planning in a neo-liberal globalisation context. Andy Inch and Tim Marshall's article published in issue 12/1 could ideally provide a trail to follow, but papers pushing forward any further or additional thesis and/or stemming from planning cultures other than the British one will be also welcome. They will have to be submitted to the Editorial Manager by Monday 17 December 2007 at the latest and will follow the usual review procedure. Selected papers will be published in a special issue edited by Michael Edwards and John Lovering in Spring 2008. Any query to the editors or Denise Phillips (PhillipsDE@cf.ac.uk).

Planning, at the urban, regional and national and international levels, faces new challenges, notably those related to the growth of globalisation as both an objective socio-economic process and a shift in policy-maker perceptions and modes of analysis. IPS addresses these issues by publishing quality research in a variety of specific fields and from a range of theoretical and normative perspectives, which helps improve understanding of the actual and potential role of planning and planners in this context. Specific policy areas covered include, but not solely, urban design, economic development, environmental policy, spatial planning, housing, transport, social inclusion. IPS fills a gap between the more specialist theoretical and empirical journals in planning and urban-regional studies. In doing so it throws new light on the influences on, and effects of, the evolution of planning theory, practice and process, and the outcomes of planning, past and present. Contributors are invited to submit articles based on original empirical or theoretical work, or assessments or critiques of existing studies that offer new perspectives, critical insights, or new data to stimulate and inform debate over the future development of planning.

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