

New Regionalism and Territorial Development

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New Regionalism

- Agenda
- Territorial Development – Received Policy and Practice
- “New Regionalism” - Geopolitical, Ideological, Macroeconomic and Other Roots
- The Two Scales of “New Regionalism”
- The Positivist and Normative Dimensions of “New Regionalism”
- The Five Key Concepts of NR
- Discussion - Is it Happening in Ireland?
- - Is it Appropriate for Ireland?
- - Other

New Regionalism

- Territorial Development –Policy and Practice
- Top-down central government process
- Technocratic and Econo-centric
- Sectoral
- Comparative Advantage
- Designated Areas and Incentives

New Regionalism

- Territorial Development –Policy and Practice
- Export Base Theory Underpinning
- Localization/Urbanization Economies, Clusters and Scale
- Supply Side Emphasis – e.g. Infrastructure
- Zero Sum Competitive Process

New Regionalism

- Territorial Development –Policy and Practice
- *Space* explicitly incorporated - distance, density, location, resource profiles, interregional disparities, etc.
- *Place*-neutral perspectives, place as object, context underplayed, place not an operational factor.

New Regionalism

- “New Regionalism” - Roots
- Globalization – selectively bypassing the State, placeless unfettered capital, supra-national organizations, governing and regulations, etc.
- Post-Fordist economy, flexible production systems, changes in societal regulation and institutions, knowledge economy, innovative milieux, centrality of networks, decline of conventional resource-based locational factors.

New Regionalism

- “New Regionalism” - Roots
- Emergent Neo-liberalism, market capitalism as priority, individualism versus collectivism, public (“consumer”) choice pragmatic decentralization/downloading.
- Persistent shortcomings of a faltering regional development regime in development policy and practice, e.g. structural unemployment, stagnation, out-migration.

New Regionalism

- “New Regionalism” - Roots
- Persistence of the bottom-up proposition (CD and democratic process) now augmented by an asset-based approach to development (e.g. ABCD, SL).
- Rediscovery of the centrality of context.
- Emergence of **place-making** as core strategy.
- Emergence of the concept of *governance* as an alternative to conventional government governing.

New Regionalism

- “New Regionalism” - Roots
- State’s inability to address spatial heterogeneity
- State’s inability to accommodate expanding demands
- The “governability” challenge

New Regionalism

- “New Regionalism” - Note the Two Scales
- Supra-national - e.g. South-East Asia, Central Europe, EU.
- Intra-national - BMW, Catalunya, Highlands and Islands, Bas St. Laurent.

New Regionalism

- Positivist and Normative Dimensions
- Inductive empirical theorizing produces a body of “objective” prescriptions for a new approach to territorial development.
- Critical deconstruction of conventional policy and practice, observations on “best practice”, and value-based principles produces a set of reform prescriptions.

New Regionalism

“New Regionalism” – Summary of a Central Perspective

- Place making, with its emphasis on assets, endogenous development, social capitals, networks, and ‘non tradable interdependencies’ is central to this new approach to development, in contrast to the traditional dominance of sectoral perspectives and a-contextual policy making.

New Regionalism – Integral Concepts



New Regionalism

- Discussion
- Is “New Regionalism” happening in rural Ireland?
 - Yes? Evidence and Causes?
 - No? Evidence and Causes?

New Regionalism

- Discussion
- Is it appropriate for rural Ireland?
 - If so, why?
 - If not, why not?

New Regionalism

- Discussion
- Is *CEDRA* recommending this approach to rural development?
 - Yes? – Evidence?
 - No? - Evidence?

New Regionalism

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