Rural and Regional Development Planning

**Agenda**

- The Issue of Theory, Policy and Practice – Practical, Professional and Other Reasons to Ponder
- Expectations of Theory in Planning
- Rural and “Rurality” – Contested Definitions
- The Region and Governance – A Confluence of Contested Constructions
- Canadian Contexts
- Indonesian Contexts
- Polish Contexts
- Irish Contexts
- Summary
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- The Issue of Theory - Why Bother?
  - Technical Rationale
  - Professional Rationale
  - Personal Ethical Rationale
  - Advancing the Body of Knowledge
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- Expectations of Theory in Planning
  - Explain
  - Predict
  - Guide

“Why are things as they are?”
“How are things likely to evolve?”
“What will this design induce?”
“What is better, best?”
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- Rural and “Rurality”
- Administrative/Statistical Perspectives
- Political Perspectives
- The Continuing Sectoral Claims
- Imagined Rural
- Idyll
- Power, Place and Property
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- The Region and Governance - Confluence of the Contested Constructions
- Functional Remit and Agenda
- Spatial Delineation
- Size and Shape
- Centre and Edges
- Governance – Emergent Conceptualization and Praxis
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- Canadian Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- Rational Comprehensive Planning – Institutionalization of Technical Rationality and Logical Positivism
- Export-Base Theory and the Political Economy of Development Planning
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- Canadian Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- Backing into Communicative Action Theory – Participation, Local Democracy and Epistemology
- Growth Pole Theory, Growth Centres and Spatial Development Planning
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- Indonesian Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- The Political Economic Imperative and Spatial Integration
- The State, Globalization and Neo-Liberal Theory
- Technical Rationality and Bureaucratic Planning
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- Polish Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- Regionalism, Regional Structures and Strategic Development Planning
- Sustainable Development, Food and Rural Development Planning - Challenges and Contradictions
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- Irish Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- The State – A Tacit Theory of Hegemony
- The Local State – Dependency
- Neo-Liberal Theory and the NDP
- Regions if Necessary, But not ….. ….. ….
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- Irish Contexts – A Sample of Theoretical Perspectives
- Stages Theory
- Modernization
- Spatial Design – Efficiency, Equity and Arrested Polynuclearism
- Centripetal and Centrifugal Tensions - Endogenous Development, Localism, Place-Based Constructs, Off-Loading and Control – CD Theory as Orphan?
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Summary

Need to Better Integrate Economic, Social, Political, Cultural and Other Theories into the Planning Process - From Policy to Practice

Relevance of Friedmann’s Dialectical Process – Social Rationality and Market Rationality

Relevance of Friedmann’s Challenge and Conceptual Schema Regarding - Systems Guidance and Maintenance, versus Systems Transformation
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Summary

Spatial Planning for Rural and Regional Development – Causal Clout and Value-Added?

Theory does Illuminate What is, and Why – But Does it Provide Guidance? If not, does it Matter?
Theory, Policy and Practice in Rural and Regional Development Planning: Some International Observations

Thank You!

David J.A. Douglas
University of Guelph, Canada
djdougla@uoguelph.ca