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The Ocean and Seas in Geographical Thought

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Book of Abstracts



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The research proposes to reconstruct this historical-territorial transition, focusing on analysing specifically the process of reterritorialisation that has taken place since the dramatic earthquake and tsunami of 2010, which devastated an important part of the city.

We propose an analysis of the results over time (2010-2022) of the Sustainable Reconstruction Plan of Constitución (PRES) and its scope in contributing to the most recent reconfiguration of this urban-rural territory in its relationship with the ocean and the river. Through archival work, local oral memory and cartographic analysis, dynamics, changes and rootedness are identified in this process in which an asymmetry of power and interests between different territorial actors such as the state, the transnational forestry company ARAUCO, the tourist industry and the local community is evident. The PRES has been configured, particularly in its initial design phase, as a milestone in the change of paradigm in territorial planning, as it has been defined and financed mainly by the transnational forestry company ARAUCO.

Sustainable territorial planning; forestry industry; territorial hegemony; Maule River; Pacific Ocean

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Analyzing coastal planning and risk perception in an area of the central Tyrrhenian Sea (Gaeta Gulf): A multidimensional approach

The coasts, in their complexity and, at the same time, anthropic and natural fragility can be considered as a crucial element of the geography of risk and a key element in territorial governance. In those contexts, a high socio-environmental vulnerability has always been associated with planning and management practices, whose actions have sometimes aggravated the coastal exposure making it more prone to extreme natural phenomena, such as coastal floods and storm surge, as well as degradation. The case of the physiographic unit of the Gaeta Gulf (Central Tyrrhenian Sea, Italy), 15 municipalities with a total population of almost 500,000 inhabitants, allows to investigate these criticalities, both in coastal areas and inland structurally related, and to understand how administrations and populations perceive, experience and face the coastal risks posed to the community and the riparian ecosystems. These aspects will be analyzed through a multidisciplinary approach that highlights the political, social, environmental, and economic practices of these areas and the possible impacts on coastal planning policies. In addition, this contribution will show the results of a qualitative survey involving the administration of questionnaires related to the perception of coastal risk, the level of information such as the mitigation and adaptation practices of communities living in these areas.

Gaeta Gulf; coastal planning; local governance; risk perception; climate change