

TOKAIDO MEGALOPOLIS

DEVELOPMENTAL STATE URBANISM FROM GROWTH TO SHRINKAGE

Speaker: André Sorensen (Toronto University)

Discussant: Beatriz Fernandez (UPM/EHESS)

Chair: Sébastien Lechevalier (EHESS)

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This paper examines the challenges posed by megaregions from the perspective of an analysis of the Tokaido Megalopolis, the first case of this urban scale in Asia. Debates about large-scale urbanization have seen a recent resurgence, with divergent interpretations of their significance and implications. The Japanese case is particularly valuable for current debates as Tokaido's peak growth was half a century ago during a very different period, and is a region that has already finished its urbanization phase and is now shrinking in population so the complete process of megalopolitan growth can be studied.



André Sorensen is Full Professor in the Department of Geography and Planning, University of Toronto. His monograph *The Making of Urban Japan: Cities and Planning from Edo to the 21st Century* (Routledge 2002) won the book prize of the International Planning History Society in 2004. He has published over 60 journal papers, chapters, and books. His current research examines urban institutions, and temporal processes in urbanization and urban governance from a comparative historical institutional perspective, with a focus on urban land and property development, infrastructure management, and the creation of increasingly differentiated property rights in urban settings.



Beatriz Fernandez is an Adjunct Professor of urban studies at the Technical University of Madrid and will join EHESS as an Associate Professor from 2018-2019. Her work focuses on the territorial transformations of contemporary cities in a comparative and diachronic approach. She is particularly interested in the socio-spatial impacts of urban growth and shrinkage processes, as well as the urban and urban planning policies that guide them. She has been a member of the Shrinking Cities International Research Network (SCiRN) since 2009.