

# EDITORIAL

The theme of this current issue of the journal explores the relations between the changes in techno-economic paradigms and recent territorial reconfiguration processes. From the initial formulation of this theme and throughout the entire editing process, we have been indebted to the invaluable collaboration of Rovena Negreiros and Aristides Monteiro Neto who have sat in as our guest editors. From a total of 17 articles that were submitted for this theme, nine were approved and thereby included in this issue. The opening article, written by the guest editors themselves, situates all the texts within the broader debate that has been imposed, both in Brazil and across the world, over the last two decades, and that may be summarized into the following question: How have the new communication and information technologies changed production activities and structures and reverberated throughout territorial organization?

As is customary during discussions conducted at ANPUR, this collection of articles reiterates the multidisciplinary approach to the problem, bringing together contributions from areas such as economic policy-making, development geography, urban and regional planning and social sciences. By focusing on different regions of the country and on a wide range of productive sectors, the intention of this dossier is not only to explore the true state-of-the-art, but also to address pressing issues of particular relevance to the area, whether for gaining an understanding of the direction and dilemmas of Brazilian development, or for planning regional and urban policies.

In addition to the nine articles contained within this special dossier, carefully reviewed by Rovena Negreiros and Aristides Monteiro, three others have also been included in this issue, two of which problematize and, in a certain manner, dialogue with the above mentioned set of studies. On the one hand, the relationship between migratory flows and the turn of events after 2014 is analyzed by Ednelson Mariano Dota and Silvana Nunes de Queiroz in “Internal migration in times of crisis in Brazil”. By differentiating between migration from region to region and the migration within the regions and within the states as from 2014, the results presented by this study reinforce the importance of the relation between the economic and demographic contexts in understanding the new migratory dynamics.

On the other hand, also based on census data, Suzana Pasternak and Lucia Maria Bogus set out to examine the forms in which the São Paulo Macrometropolis has been structured and the effects of the socio-spatial inequalities that exist within it. The macro-region defined in 2012 by Emplasa brings together five metropolitan regions, two urban agglomerations and one micro-region, thereby becoming a privileged object of analysis for scholars of regional urban issues. The researchers have taken on the challenge of analyzing the complexity of economic and social issues across this region. They consider the socio-occupational structure as the central element and have sought to identify the forms of economic and social organization and the spatialities that have emerged across this changing macro-region.

The study by Eliana Rosa de Queiroz Barbosa, Nadia Somekh and Bruno De Meulder, “Expectant Territories and Urban Instruments: The Case of Urban Operation Água Branca”, addresses the refutations of the process of productive transformation in planning the city of São Paulo, which, since the end of the 1970s, has been marked by the withdrawal of industrial activity. The specific focus of the analysis is on urban operations, more specifically the Água Branca Urban Operation, implemented after 1995 in an area in which the history of urbanization was strongly marked by the local

---

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22296/2317-1529.2019v21n2p219>

process of industrialization. Through observing the operability of the urbanistic instrument, the different project strategies practiced and the forms in which they materialized within the territory, this article not only offers an indication as to the urban effects of the ongoing productive restructuring, but also raises relevant questions regarding its true effectiveness and its semi-conventional nature, according to the distinct compositions between public authorities and real estate capital.

This issue of the journal will be launched at a Special Session of the XVIII National Meeting of ANPUR, in the Brazilian North-eastern city of Natal, during which there will also be a discussion on the directions of editorial policy and the current challenges for RBEUR.