

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Architecture for Heritage

Abstract

TURIN outside of TURIN, the story of the intercommunal plan and the development of the Turin "belt" in the 1960s

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The city of Turin experienced significant growth in the 1960s, propelled by post-war reconstruction and economic prosperity. This surge led to increased demand for space, prompting expansion beyond the city's administrative limits and into surrounding territories, referred to as the "belt."

To manage this expansion in line with Italy's evolving urban planning system, a supra-municipal plan was proposed, involving Turin and twenty-three neighboring municipalities.

The Intercommunal Plan of Turin (PRIT), largely attributed to Professor Architect Giampiero Vigliano, was never fully implemented. Nevertheless, its legacy has influenced the planning of Turin's current metropolitan area. This research aims to reconstruct the history of the PRIT through archival materials.

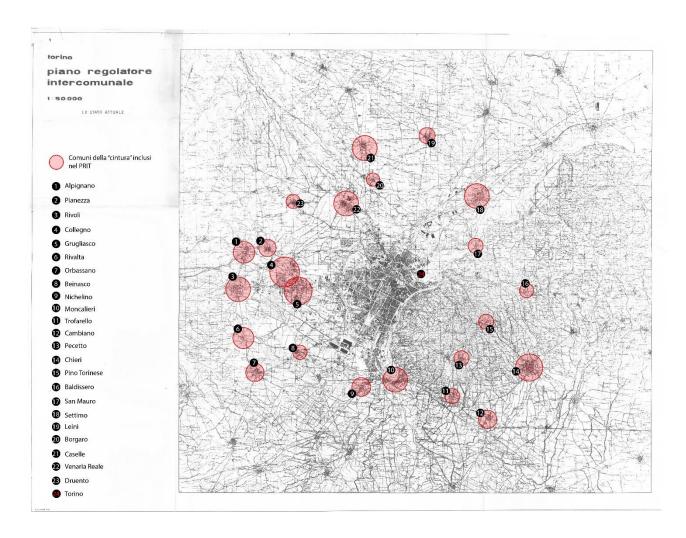
By analyzing meeting minutes from the mayors of the participating municipalities, a chronological sequence of events was established. These documents offer a critical perspective on the PRIT's controversies, reflecting the views of urban planners of the time as well as members of the Piedmontese section of the Italian Communist Party.

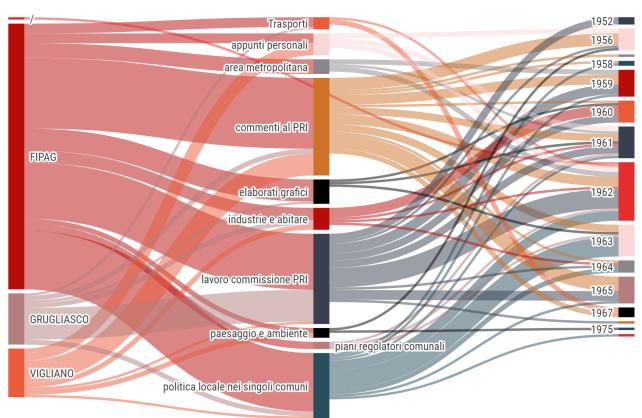
Both the plan's strengths and its challenges are discussed.

Rather than providing a conclusive analysis, this study serves as a foundation for further investigation into the PRIT. The plan marks an early stage in Italy's urban debate, emerging post-war, around the need for coordinated planning and local regulatory frameworks. In examining the relationship between Turin and its hinterland, this research also addresses the phenomenon of industrial decentralization, whereby certain production sectors originally based in Turin relocated to suburban municipalities.

Given the broad scope of this investigation, a sample municipality, Grugliasco, a participant in the intercommunal plan was selected for focused analysis, providing a close-up view of PRIT under a "microscope."

By examining the controversy surrounding the Turin Intercommunal Plan, this study revisits the historical processes that shaped today's metropolitan landscape, highlighting the decision-making processes that have often determined the trajectories of Italian cities. Through this lens, Turin is viewed from beyond its administrative borders, from the vantage of its rural past, engaged in one of Italy's earliest attempts at "coordinated planning."







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