



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

Degree in Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)

Abstract

Exploring the territory, Puglia in a geography of reactions

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by

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SUBJECT

This Thesis proposes a method of knowledge of the territory through an exploration path aimed at describing the changes caused by tourism on the one hand, and at understanding the type of development model Puglia is assuming on the other hand.

METHODOLOGY

This research work starts from observation: it deals with the territory representation through its Plans on the one hand, that is how the Region sees the territory and how these Plans influence Political Strategies, and with what makes up the territory on the other hand, that is its practices.

Who observes the territory?

It will be us, through a subjective vision, building the criteria and the means to explore, being responsible for our own “knowledge paths”.

What shall be observed?

In order to answer this question, we need to look at the territory as a “living subject”. This way, we shall no longer search for the effects caused by actions, on the contrary we shall observe the reactions of the territory to actions.

Our work is therefore a “geography of reactions” aimed at representing the conditions of change on the territory through the study of reactions.

Representing for the first time not only the object making up the territory but also the change caused by the interaction between them, was the major change for us.

How shall change be represented?

In order to be able to draw our geography of the territory we used several techniques, such as drawings, photos and conceptual maps, depending on the specific aspect we intended to analyse.

A part of our exploration was the elaboration of the project “Occupy, migrant laboratory generating territories”, aiming at the territory knowledge and promotion through “doing” and “observing”.

This project also wants to promote a process of touristic development based on the principles of sustainable local development. Such project was neither the starting point nor the final step of our exploration, but rather a means to understand the territory.

RESULTS

As a conclusion, having studied the Region Development Plans and Programs, and having explored the field, we proved that the geography of Puglia does not totally reflect the geographic division operated by the Region.

Our exploration path showed that there is not a single local development model and that the only possible ways are not those determined in the Region Plans: as a matter of fact, many different ones have been started on the territory.

We believe that the territory has assumed its “own” form, which is in a certain way an unexpected form, being it spontaneously generated from the bottom.

For this reason, the purpose our project is to outline a new development model based on the specific local territory.

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