

Methods 5

Paradigm shifts in planning perspective.

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This methodology session will tackle the question of how (if ever) planning theory and practice is (needs to be) redefined under the challenges of main paradigm shifts. Emerging paradigms will be explored, such as 'post-growth', in the light of the seemingly broadly shared objective of 'ecologic transition'. Post growth is increasingly recognized as an essential viewpoint and approach: while the debate on its meaning at the economic and societal level is progressively more strongly rooted and exhaustive, that at the urban and spatial level is still rather insufficiently explored. Furthermore, since planning is traditionally related to pro-growth paradigms, profound intellectual/philosophical, political, and professional reluctance emerge when its foundations are criticized or problematized. Meanwhile, the concept of 'ecologic transition' challenges the role of knowledge and its position within planning processes. It seems that from the 'traditional' dichotomy (unachievable) comprehensive knowledge *vs* (intractable) uncertainty, we are moving towards a way of considering knowledge, that is a radical uncertainty and nescience, that hardly fits with the very idea of planning.