

Abstracts

Gino Massullo

Territorialization and Regionalization: a Hard Collimation. The Case of Molise

This essay summarizes the administrative history of Molise region from the Middle Age to the twentieth century, with a focus on the relationship between territorialization, regionalization and regionalism. The author emphasize the need to complete the process of modern regional identification of Molise – started in the Napoleonic era and not yet completed –, in terms of a balanced territorial hierarchy. This will be, in his opinion, the only way to get a new possible regional order while preserving the necessary territorial dignity.

Norberto Lombardi

The Parable of the Regionalism of the Molise Region

This work, thanks to a long-medium term analysis, tries to disclose the reasons of the crisis in which the Molisan regionalism seems to have been witnessing for some time. It also highlights some comparison and courses of action to consolidate the objective basis of the regional autonomy, achieved in 1963 after the split from the Abruzzo region.

The author thinks that some of the elements that led to this condition are: the limits in strategic vision of the regionalistic movement, the unresolved issues in a general and specific sense in the Constituent Assembly about the nature and functions of the regions, the constant removal of the demographic aspects, above all after the massive emigration after WWII, the strong dependency on public spending of the contradictory modernization of the regional society, the decrease of the large amount of financial support deriving from the extraordinary intervention, the national Government subsidies and European projects, the stagnation between the two centuries, followed by the economic crisis that has heavily affected the regional society. The crisis has also strongly undermined the regional autonomy, questioning its real foundations.

In perspective, this work analyses the possibilities of virtual and real demographic reintegration, connected to the large amounts of migrants who left the region, further incremented by new forms of mobility and to the growing number of migrants in the Molisan municipalities, the need of a subregional level reorganization, the urgency to launch a different development model aimed at enhancing the use of local environmental, naturalistic, energetic, cultural and historical resources with a methodology strongly anchored to projects having a global perspective.

The research ends with a complex review of the historical and present hypothesis of territorial and institutional regrouping, calling for its careful and responsible analysis aimed at overcoming the rhetoric and sterile defense theories of regional autonomy which have been the answer so far to the regionalistic debate.

Letizia Bindi

The Intangible Regions.

Cultural Heritages and Representations of Local Identities

The paper focused around the notion of geographic, linguistic and cultural ‘area’, which has been often discussed in ethno-anthropological studies. In this debate the idea itself of local identity and its cultural roots are discussed. This offers the opportunity to rethink critically the idea of Region that has been and it still is so crucial in the redefinition of the real and symbolic boundaries and significances of different scale local identity and belonging. ‘Cultural intimacy’, thus, is questioned in wider frameworks of conservation and valorisation of cultural heritage, shared practices, community-based participation in a dynamic tension with “global hierarchies of value”.

Roberto Parisi

Molise and the Urbanism. A Historical Perspective

After more than fifty years from its institution, Molise is the only Italian region that never established an organic system of urban planning standards.

Therefore, the absence of a regional planning law is an element of reflection that justifies the attempt to address the relationship between urbanism and regionalism in a historical perspective.

In this essay, the author takes on the urban planning as a privileged point of view to analyse the territorial dynamics which have characterized the regional dimension of Molise, deepening the impact of the urban and regional practices on local communities.

Antonio Mancini, Alberto Tarozzi

Social Services, Education and Territory: for a Regional Road Map

What are the employment opportunities of first degree graduates in Social Work at the University of Molise? Based on the results of a national research, this work reconstructs the framework and explores the reasons

why the potential employment conditions of graduates in Social Work in Molise, in relation to what happens in other areas, are critical. Therefore, how to ensure to these graduates some more opportunities to spend in an even difficult future?

Calogero Muscarà
*From Cavour's Design to the "Sistema Italia".
 A Brief Historical Geografic Reconstruction*

The article summarizes the historical transition from Cavour's design of making the Italian unification starting from Sardinian kingdom to the statement of the so-called "Sistema Italia" that was established between Italian governments and southern local elites and founded on the distribution of selective benefits in exchange for political support. The author emphasizes that the "sistema" went on to substitute an autonomous economic development in the south of Italy.

Giovanni Cerchia
Centre and Peripheries, from the Risorgimento to the Republic

Italy was born in 1861 as a divided country, with a lot of conflicts that marked the first years of its life. Cavour and his heirs' choice to centralize political life was due to these problems. We must wait for the new century for seeing a liberal change, during Giolitti's government, with a significant reform of State administration and a strengthening of the powers of the outlying territories. But only the republican regime, since 1946, seriously will put the issue of regionalism and of the local authorities. To do it, in any cases, will be socialists, communists and Catholics (their representatives will make up 75 percent of the Constituent Assembly): the heirs of some political culture defeated during our «Risorgimento».

Antonio Ruggieri
Molise: a Region in meadstream

Regarding the difficulties encountered by Molise in defending its institutional autonomy, we organized a meeting coordinated by Antonio Ruggieri, attended by Gaspero Di Lisa, president of the Association of former regional councilors of Molise Region, Franco Spina, regional CGIL secretariat member, Stefano Sabelli, founder and artistic director of "Teatro del Loto" of Ferrazzano and entrepreneur Serena Di Nucci.

Gino Massullo
Notables in Molise

The essay deals with the social and political role of notables in Molise from mid-eighteenth century to the rise of Fascism. It underlines the transition from the *local* notable who acted within the community or in corporate, to the *national* notable who appear in the contest of fascist corporativism and totalitarianism. Clientelism and transformism, main instruments of the notable's leadership, are related to modernization and not only to backwardness.

Rossella Andreassi
*“Not on land only: the Rural Schools in Molise
between Late Nineteenth and Twentieth Century”:* a teaching project

Maria Lettino
*The Historical Sources for the School Heritage Education: the project:
“Not on land only” and the effects of laboratory activities*

The articles (Andreassi-Lettino), closely connected to one another, present the experience of a teaching project concerning rural schools, named “Non di solo terra: le scuole rurali in Molise tra fine '800 e '900” (“Not on land only: rural schools in Molise between '800 and '900”). The project, funded by Iresmo (Regional Institute of historical studies in Molise “V. Cuoco”), and realized by University of Molise's Ce.S.I.S. Research Center and Museum of school and popular education, has been developed on three different laboratory activities based on educational games, aimed at discovering this particular topic. Six classes both of primary and middle school of Molise have taken part to the project. The articles present the activities carried out and its educational implications, illustrated by the teacher Mrs. Lettino (“Istituto Comprensivo “D'Ovidio” di Campobasso - Scuola secondaria di I grado”), who took part to the initiative with her own class. The project has been monitored and verified by means of several evaluation methodologies.