

Łukasz Damurski (2015)

From Formal to Semi-formal and Informal Communication in Urban Planning. Insights from Polish Municipalities

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The communicative turn within planning theory results in a high diversity of planning forms, adapted to particular spatial and social contexts. The degree of their embedment in the official planning law is varied, therefore a precise definition of what is "formal", "semi-formal" or "informal" may be a difficult task.

Nevertheless, such attempts need to be made if we want to achieve a general conceptual and normative order in planning theory. In this study, 18 Polish municipalities experiencing a relatively fast growth in urban planning in recent years were examined. The analysis of the emerging new forms of public communication gave the following results: all the information produced within the planning process is perceived as public, though not all is publicly available; formal planning procedures are usually extended by the multiplication of statutory communication channels; the list of actors taking part in planning is dominated by landlords, developers and entrepreneurs, which affects plan formulation with an overbalance of economic factors. A general conclusion is that we may be witnessing a gradual shift from the traditional, hierarchical mentality in Polish planning towards a more communicative model.

Full article: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/096543...>

PDF: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/0965431...>

<https://www.pol-int.org/en/publications/formal-semi-formal-and-informal-communication-urban?j5Q6rewycZ5HtUDXTWpx7UZE=1>