

Summaries

Madani SAFAR ZITOUN: *The Participatory Experiences in Algeria: a Revealer of Citizen Expectations?*

This article aims to analyse the way in which “participatory” methodologies have been introduced and acclimatised in Algerian social and institutional contexts, and what lessons can be drawn from their experimentation and spontaneous dissemination in the different environments where they have been applied since their introduction in the country in the 1990s. It thus shows the existence of two major effects induced by the implementation processes: the difficult invention of the collective social actor advocated by these methodologies on the one hand, and the role played by local institutional actors in curbing “spontaneous” local initiatives on the other. In the end, the analysis highlights how much the documented participatory experiences show the dormant capacities that exist in local residential communities to seize and implement effective participatory arrangements that translate and express a new definition of the concept of citizenship.

Keywords: participation - urban projects - urban actors - residential communities - citizenship.

Anna ROUADJIA: *Commitment to the Environment: between Expectation of Redistribution and Quest for Recognition*

The article focuses on the values and modalities of citizens' commitment. It aims to question the link between the objective socioeconomic conditions of individuals and the values and ideologies they defend. More precisely, it attempts to analyse the influence of social conditions and positions on the values of citizen participation, on the one hand, and of the environment, on the other. Contrary to the positivist idea according to which the socioeconomic variable would be determinant to explain the commitment of the actors in favour of the natural environment, this study shows that this deterministic projection is far from being the central engine of the action.

Keywords: environment - commitments - actors - ideologies - Algiers.

Fatiha TAMANI-DJEBRA, Meriem CHABOU-OTHMANI, Radjaa BENSOUYAH: *Community Gardens: an Alternative for Participation in Urban Proximity Management. The Case of the Ezzouhour Garden of Boumati (Algiers)*

Starting from the observation that the shared garden is a space of proximity and of initiation to civility aiming at reinforcing conviviality and involving citizens in the life of their city, the article analyses this type of garden as a practice which involves a process of participation. It promotes a sense of belonging and home on the one hand, and constitutes a vector for success in urban proximity management and the improvement of the neighbourhood living environment on the other. The case of the “Ezzouhour Garden” in the AADL (National Agency for Housing Improvement and Development) Boumati housing estate, located in El Harrach (Algiers), with its specificity as the first community garden in Algeria and as a pilot operation, shows that its operational implementation contributes to the mobilisation and appropriation of residents.

Keywords: community gardens - participation - proximity management - urban management- living environment.

Dounia CHERFAOUI: *The Participatory Approach in the Development of Public Squares in Algiers, an Alternative in Face of the Economic Crisis*

Algiers has adopted a development strategy which aims at modernizing it by 2030. However, an initiative, involving various actors: residents, artists, architects and architecture students, has led to the redevelopment of a square in the capital. This initiative has attracted the attention of researchers in the field and has raised the following questions: Has citizen participation become imperative in the face of the economic crisis? What are the benefits to be gained from this initiative? Will other places experience the same operation? This article puts a magnifying glass on the subject of the citizen participation by addressing the case of the Ben Boulaïd Square in Algiers through interviews conducted with various actors. This survey highlights the advantages, the limits and the perspectives of this participative approach.

Keywords: citizenship - public spaces - urban planning - participatory approach - economic crisis.

Hatem KAHLOUN: *The Tunisian Civil Society under the Test of the Participatory Notion: Mobilisation, Pressure and Compromise around Urban Development Projects*

Within an interactive model in which the territory, the local and governance converge towards a complex system of action, this paper focuses on the analysis of the role of civil society in relation to local territories, through compromise and coalition initiatives between stakeholders acting in the decision-making sphere. In a revolutionary context specific to Tunisian cities, the mutations recorded in the modes of participation and negotiation seem to be reconfigured to determine, at different scales, the new modes of governance of local

development. Through the prism of issues with controversial institutional and political contours, discursive arenas emerge to condition the new forms of mobilization carried by associations.

Keywords: civil society - local development - governance - territoriality - Tunisia.