



**Regional Studies Association One Day Winter Conference
Friday 25th November 2011 London, UK
Contested Regions: Territorial Politics and Policy**



To register go to:

<https://eiemea.certain.com/rsa/getdemo.ei?id=1010024&s=39K0KNBWM>

CALL FOR PAPERS – ABSTRACT SUBMISSION EXTENDED UNTIL MONDAY 11TH JULY 2011

The 2011, Regional Studies Association Winter Conference is welcoming offers of papers contributing to current debates on emerging new territorial dynamics and politics. There has been discussion through the last two decades about the role of the region as a primary spatial scale at which political and economic agendas are contested and resolved. Disputes have often centred on complex constructions of identity, sovereignty, borders, legitimacy and democracy.

We are now seeing a growing appreciation of an alternative set of territorial politics, one which is leading researchers to focus on new forms of disparity and disputes such as the implications of changing patterns of migration, emergence of new states, promotion of inter-governmentality and regional collaboration by the European Commission as well as challenges to existing models of democracy and representation through a growth in localism. Globalisation also appears to be fuelling claims of the resurgence of cities as drivers of competitiveness resulting in challenges to existing urban economic infrastructures and urban regional governance.

The pace of change has left these pivotal societal and political-economic formations reliant on increasingly outdated and inadequate institutional structures, infrastructures, territorialities, statutory frameworks and supports. And herein rests the tension: as the demand for more 'appropriate', widely understood to mean more flexible, networked and smart forms of urban and regional planning and governance arrangements increases, new loci and/or expressions of territorial cooperation and conflict are emerging.

The Regional Studies Association Winter Conference 2011, on **Contested Regions** presents an opportunity to discuss and debate these important issues, to establish the need and nature of future research imperatives in this field, and to address the concerns, and challenges confronting practitioners and policymakers.

Contributions are therefore invited on, but not limited, to one or more of the following themes:

- New sites and forms of regional conflict: inter-regional, intra- regional, and in-between regional;
- Remapping of regions and localities and the implications of this for multilevel governance, policy success or policy failure;
- Models of regional and metropolitan governance;

- The role of territorial politics in regional strategies for economic development and state redistribution;
- Cooperation, disputes and political struggles around borders / boundaries/ sovereignty;
- The politics of local and regional infrastructures.

The conference organizers are keen to attract papers and sessions which address a broad research and policy agenda, including contributions from any discipline which can offer relevant insights at local and regional levels. Papers which are collaborative, international or multi-disciplinary are especially welcome.

The authors of all papers selected for presentation at this conference will be invited to submit a piece for the conference proceedings which carry an ISBN. This publication will be distributed to all conference participants on the day of the event and will be available for sale following the conference. Full copyright is not required – just a licence to publish so that you may still publish the material in other places subject to their regulations.

Programme

The day will consist of both parallel workshop sessions and plenary sessions.

Plenary Speakers

Morning Session:

- **Spaces of collective provision: ‘old’ territorial politics in the ‘new’ economy?**
Professor Andy Jonas, University of Hull
- **Suburban governance and the regional question: the Canadian perspective**
Professor Roger Keil, York University, Canada
- **Regional complexity, governance and the region – Problematizing ‘thick’ and ‘thin’ territories**
Professor Anssi Paasi, Academy of Finland & University of Oulu

Afternoon Session:

- **Political geographies and the public realm**
Professor Kevin Morgan, Cardiff University
- **Relational approaches to regions and the place of politics**
Professor Allan Cochrane, Open University

Target Audience

The conference is open to all: academics, policy makers and practitioners.

Submission Details

Please submit offers of papers in the form of 400 word abstracts through the Regional Studies Association on-line conference portal by Monday 4th July 2011. Your MS Word file should contain your name, telephone, fax and e-mail details. To submit go <https://eiemea.certain.com/rsa/getdemo.ei?id=1010024&s=39KOKNBWM> and follow the *Winter Conference Call for Papers 2011* link. Proposals will be considered by the Conference Programme Committee against the criteria of originality and interest, subject balance and geographical spread.

Prices: RSA Student Member £45, RSA Early Career/Associate Member £95 and RSA Individual/Corporate Member £170. Non-members: Student £85, Early Career/Associate (retired) £160 and Individual/Corporate £225

Local Organisers: John Harrison: J.Harrison4@lboro.ac.uk, Martin Jones: msj@aber.ac.uk, and Gordon MacLeod: gordon.macleod@durham.ac.uk

RSA Organiser: Elizabeth Mitchell: elizabeth.mitchell@rsa-ls.ac.uk

Regional Studies Association, PO Box 2058, Seaford, BN25 4QU, UK, Tel: +44 (0)1323 899 698, Fax: +44 (0)1323 899 798
Email: events@rsa-ls.ac.uk, www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk, Reg. Charity No. 1084165, Reg. in England & Wales No. 4116288,
VAT No. 393 7705 16