



Paradigm Shifts and Urban Regeneration Process in Planning History

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Poly-centric formation of a philosophical system connecting philosophy of science and planning philosophy has given rise to various differentiations in the approaches, strategies and models for urban development and change from the 20th century. The main criterion outlining that differentiation is based on the assumption that contemporary planning theory is a spatial response of planning approaches and strategies in the framework of paradigm shifts. Paradigm shifts after the 1980's under the scope of globalization might be accepted as evidence about the approaches, strategies and models differentiated by neo-liberalization process. Thus, this study focuses on urban development and change in order to point out the planning, management and sustainability of urban regeneration process in global cities under the framework of the 21st century conjuncture. Moreover, this study aims to provide a paradigmatic evaluation on urban regeneration process in planning history with a target of debating contemporary neo-liberal challenges. Therefore, argument in this study has a twofold objective: (1) to investigate the modification in the planning approaches, strategies and models on urban change for planning, managing and sustaining the process (2) to debate the contemporary neo-liberal challenges in global cities under the framework of paradigm shifts. Accordingly, this study evaluates paradigm shifts in urban planning and their effect on urban regeneration process by an analytical and comparative method in the framework of historical progression of urban planning. This paper is built upon three successive sections within that perspective. Firstly, dominating paradigms surpassed in each period and restructured planning theory throughout the planning history will be explained. Then, theoretical and practical differentiations on urban regeneration process will be investigated by evaluating the planning approaches, strategies and models on urban change in each period. Finally, as a response to neo-liberal challenges on the contemporary historic preservation and urban conservation agenda, a strategic model integrating theory, practice and method in its framework will be proposed by comparing similarities and differences in organizational and spatial levels on the issue of urban regeneration process both in Istanbul-Turkey and other global cities in the World.

Conclusively, this paper underlines the need for systematizing an integrated, strategic, multi-agent and collaborative model unifying theory, practice and method in its framework for planning, managing and sustaining the urban regeneration process by releasing a debate on the contemporary neo-liberal conjuncture in which the political, economical and planning paradigms on urban development and change are conjoined competitively in global cities both in the World and Turkey.

KEY WORDS: Globalization, paradigm shifts, philosophy of science, planning philosophy, planning history, planning theory, approaches, and strategies, urban growth and change, urban regeneration process (planning, management, sustainability).