Building the Metropole: A case study of Tours

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Rationale for comparative study

 Pickvance (1986) 'Comparative urban analysis and assumptions about causality' *International Journal of Urban* and Regional Research 10 162-184:

Recognition of varieties of social phenomena, overcome ethnocentric assumptions about what is normal

Requirement to consider what is (in)essential among the observed differences between countries

Comparative studies as a means to an end

Types of comparative study

 Kemeny, J and Lowe, S (1998) Schools of Comparative Housing Research. From Convergence to Divergence, *Housing Studies*, 13, 2, 161-176

Juxtaposition Convergence (common trajectory of policy / place) Divergence (foreground difference / construct typologies)

The new 'city regionalism'

 "there has been an under emphasis in the city region literature on how territorial forms are constructed ... An especially notable lacunae is serious treatment of the role of the state." (Jonas and Ward, 2007).





Metropolisation

Decentralisation Act 3

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Loi 'MAPTAM' (metropoles) 2013

Loi 'NOTRe' (territorial organisation of the Republic) 2015

Loi *délimitation des régions, etc.* (regional reform) 2015

Tours Metropole



- Tours: a metropole?
- Mobilising local stakeholders
- Building a case
- Networking / lobbying
 Amendment to Loi Grand Paris (2017)
 The Prefecture
 The cumul des mandats

Tours Metropole



- 'Making' the metropole
- Pacte Etat Metropole
- Governance
 Primacy of local mayors
 No metropolitan project

Tours Metropole



- Participation Conseil de développement
- Urban rural interdependencies *Contrat de co-operation metropolitaine*

Conclusion 1: from traditional regional policy to territorial competitiveness





Conclusion 2: reform of sub-central governance



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