

The New Challenges of Urban and Rural Planning in Europe Proposal of a Game to Set up the Territorial Strategy

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SUMMARY

The new challenges of urban and rural planning in Europe - The concept of land sobriety in France

The concept of "zero net artificialisation" has its origins in a European Commission document entitled "The Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe" published on 20 September 2011.

The document outlines its "goal of eliminating by 2050 any net increase in the area of occupied land." This roadmap even specifies the trajectory chosen: to move in the European Union from an annual consumption of more than 1,000 km² per year on average to 800 km² by 2020 (-20%), then to 0 km² in 2050.

In July 2019, a report of the think-tank "France Stratégie" indicated that in France, 20,000 hectares of natural areas are artificialised each year (on average between 2006 and 2016).

But these figures are contested by many professionals, including the surveyors. Depending on the sources cited and the measuring instruments used, this figure can be as high as 60,000 ha.

Housing accounts for 41.9% of artificialized land, road networks for 27.8%, and services and leisure for 16.2%.

Anyway, the rate of artificialization in France is considered higher than the European average.

The French Government took up this objective for the first time in the 2018 Biodiversity Plan. In 2019 - the Government set up a national observatory on artificialization.

At the same time, through a ministerial instruction, the government asked to the Prefects (Senior

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civil servant representing the government in the region or department where he/she is appointed) to actively fight against the artificialization of land - "ZAN" objective in 2050.

Working Group in all ministries in charge are now set up to precise this overall objective and identify all actions to be carried to reach it.

The law project "to fight against climate change and strengthen resilience in the face of its effects", known as the "climate and resilience" law, aims to translate some of the proposals of the Citizens' Climate Convention into legislation and, as such, it includes a whole system to reduce the artificialization of land. Objective - to reduce by half the consumption of space in 10 years and to reach the objective of zero net artificialisation of land in 2050.

In 2019, the OGE Urban Planning Commission took up this goal by drafting a manifesto "for a balanced development of territories".

It warned of the imprecise definition of the concept of "artificialization" and the low precision of the announced diagnoses, and of the need to take into account the diversity of territories, particularly rural areas. The manifesto also underlined that the place of nature in the city and in development projects is not sufficiently taken into account.

The manifesto is accompanied by a dozen proposals, developed in action sheets.

In parallel - internal communication to raise awareness among members of the profession of the arrival of new measures to reduce land consumption. Actions with our partners - exchanges and participation in various events to carry the voice of the profession)

OGE participates also in many ministerial working groups and meets regularly with the government to discuss the proposals of land surveyors.

Finally, during the legislative process, OGE drafted 4 amendments

- To give priority to the application of the objectives of reducing the artificialization of soils to municipalities above a certain threshold of inhabitants (based on the principle that large municipalities have often artificialized more than very rural territories - they have benefited from the economic and social changes - metropolization, etc. - of the last decades.

In the end, the objective is to allow rural communities to develop in order to regain the demographic threshold necessary to maintain local services and shops.

- Not to penalize territories that are already virtuous in terms of space

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consumption

- Contextualize the objectives of reducing the artificialization of land - through a densification study - cross-referencing the development needs of each territory (economic development, demographic development....) with the potential for densification.

- Reconcile land sobriety and nature in the city (create the mechanisms for compensation between artificialized spaces / renatured spaces - returned to nature - allow the creation of nature spaces in the city to fight against urban heat islands).

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