

# **THE PERIURBAN FACT ; Characterization and proposals of a long term regulation under de frame of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona**

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## **English Abstract**

- The Periurban Fact is formed of all that no properly rural, neither urban activities that occupy the open spaces of the territory and in a special way, the close periphery of the urban areas. Their isolate location related to the compact or dens city gives its local identity, and the sprawl their territorial one, which is a common to the majority of the metropolitan agglomerations around the world.

- In a poly-nuclear metropolitan boundary like Barcelona the superposition of different sprawled boundaries has generated an homogeneous and amorphous blanket of activities, most of which are incompatible with the functions of area where there are located, and their urban quality contributes to a progressive degradation of the natural spaces. But they are still unknown to the planning processes although they create an increasing visual impact, day by day.

- The reasons to that situation can be found on the lack of the regulations and the planning instruments because they can not answer to the social demands of an increasing complex society, and the effects obviously can be seen in their territory. But also in the fact that the evolution has converted the territorial extrinsic conditions (transport networks, land price, etc.) in the new criteria for new locations.

The same dynamic of evolution shows the incongruence about activities that traditionally have been considered rural, and nowadays look more than industrial ones.

Nevertheless, exists a group of activities that have good reasons to be periurban due to technical or public interest reasons, although the same Public Statements go too far using that term to locate activities that they do not accept inside their urban land or they are not prepared to receive.

- The Periurban Fact can not be described with the usual tools. Using the idea of the their complex nature, as a system, or the combination of many systems, analysis can be developed in a way to have good results. On one hand must be consider the territorial metropolitan scale, and on the other hand, the definition of new parameters, permit to look for that criteria that really describe regular behaviours ("attractors"), so can be use in a proposal of a long term regulation of activities for the open spaces.