

Introduction. The New Agrarian Question: Control Over Resources and Social Reproduction, by *Alessandra Corrado*

The 3F (food-fuel-finance crisis) has highlighted the continuous and renewed process of capitalistic accumulation, by dispossession and creative destruction, as well as the fundamental role of agriculture for social reproduction and ecological balance on the global level. The definition of an agrarian question of food has emerged by the contribution of peasant movements too: control over production resources and peasant agriculture appear to be fundamental for food sovereignty and socio-ecological sustainability.

Keywords: Agrarian Question, Food Sovereignty, Food Security, Peasant Agriculture, Land Grabbing, Land.

Historicizing the Agrarian Question, by *Philip McMichael*

The agrarian question is a political question with specific time-place coordinates. In the classically informed class-based approach, agrarian becomes either a location for class formation, or a site for a developmentalist interpretation of the role of agriculture in capitalist accumulation. But agrarian transition processes need world-historical specification beyond the categories of classical political-economy. Food regime analysis offers such an approach by deploying it as a comparative-historical construct in order to understand the agrarian question as an expression of global political-economic transformation.

Keywords: Agrarian Question, Food Regime, Food Sovereignty, Developmentalism, Ecology, Political History of Capital.

Land, Labour and Agricultural Production in China: Mechanisms of Labour-Driven Intensification, by *Jan Douwe van der Ploeg, Ye Jingzhong, Wu Huifang e Wang Chunyu*

Chinese agriculture is basically a peasant agriculture and agricultural growth is a peasant managed process. Peasant managed agricultural growth mainly occurs through labour-driven intensification. In this text the authors discuss several mechanisms that play a role in, and together explain, the remarkable recent growth of China's agriculture. Empirical data were gathered in two mountain villages of Hebei province, where the multiple involvement in different activities is actively used to strengthen the peasant unit of production.

Keywords: Labour-driven Intensification, Peasant Agriculture, China's Agriculture, Multifunctionality, Rural Nonfarm Economy, Rural Migrations.

Crisis, Repeasantization and Labor. Stories of Transition in Northern and Southern Italy, by *Alessandra Corrado*

The farming reorganization and the new forms of social cooperation and networking are basic strategies for the reproduction of small and medium farms as well as for a new

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engagement with agriculture for young people looking for income opportunities. These strategies work to cope with a crisis that is economic as well as ontological, questioning identities, livelihoods and the sense of doing agriculture. The author analyzes agriculture transition processes evaluating farm styles and stories in different local contexts in Italy, exactly in Lombardia and in Calabria regions.

Keywords: Peasant Agriculture, Repeasantization, Short Chains, Crisis, Gruppi di Acquisto Solidale, Multifunctionality.

Alternative Food Networks: a Sicilian Experience Promoted by Critical Farmers,
by Silvia Sivini

The processes of transition in the food systems are often sustained by farmers' innovations. The author discusses the results of an empirical research on innovative strategies adopted by organic/biodynamic Sicilian producers promoting a strong alternative food network. The research outlines the presence of an innovative path connected to the development of critical consumption, especially by GASes. The producers investigated can be defined as critical farmers. Their characteristics and their practices in developing a strong alternative food network are analyzed focusing on the creation of social and political change and in promoting food democracy.

Keywords: Alternative Food Networks; Organic Production; Short Food Chains; Solidarity Economy; Critical Consumption; Critical Farmers.

The Grazing Land of Loliondo. Green grabbing and hunting safari, *by Annamaria Vitale*

In recent decades hunting tourism has assumed the proportion of a global industry, as wildlife has been turned into objects of economic utility. The paper examines the interplay between green grabbing and hunting tourism in Loliondo, an area in northern Tanzania home to Maasai pastoralists. It shows how the leasing of a hunting concession on village lands by the central government has resulted into restrictions on range resources. This situation has led to local resistance and struggle over land rights.

Keywords: Green Grabbing; Land Grabbing; Hunting Tourism; Tanzania; Maasai; Conservation of Nature.

The Periurban Environment and Its Socio-Territorial Features. An Analytical and Empirical Proposal for Lombardy, *by Matteo Colleoni, Simone Caiello*

Located around the urban areas, rather than on the city's edge, the peri-urban is normally conceived as a hybrid territory that is difficult to define and even more to identify geographically. Starting with a brief summary of the most important previous studies on the subject, the article offers then an analytical interpretation of the periurban phenomenon and shows the results obtained through its empirical application to the Lombardy territory. The aim of the study is in fact to locate the periurban territory in Lombardy region and to describe the social composition of its population.

Keywords: Periurban, Urbanization Process, Metropolitan Area, Social Morphology, Ecological Indicator, GIS.

Where Does the City End? A Proposal for Classifying all Lombardy Municipalities by Using a Social Morphology and Functional Approach, *by Silvia Mugnano, Giulia Caiani*

A conceptual framework for the study of territories and populations should at least include indicators of geographical morphology and indicators of social morphology. The latter, in some cases, partially redraw territorial boundaries on the basis of the functions insisting on territories and catch "transition" areas (periurbans, for instance) according to a non-conventional perspective that could also partly justify the mis-matching between some macro-areas and some adopted territorial policies.

Keywords: Multifunctionality. Lombardy, City, Periurban, Rural, Urban.

The Role of the Neighborhood Committee to the Social Relationship and Sense of Security Perception, *by incenzo Marrone*

In the last decades some urban and architectural planning theories, as the new urbanism, have been focusing on the sense of community, security and social capital achievement starting from the design of housing and neighborhood solutions. The paper focuses on a comparative analysis between two similar planned neighbourhoods built on the new urbanism principles. The research findings show that the social dynamics and the sense of security perception are associated to the inhabitant committee presence more than the architectural and urban form.

Keywords: Neighborhood Attachment, New Urbanism, Neighborhood Committee, Sense of Security, Social Cohesion, Mixed Method