

NEW DEADLINE: FOR SUBMITTING ABSTRACTS : JANUARY 4TH 2018

HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHY COMMISSION

Sessions proposal for the International Geographical Union
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**INDIGENOUS SPATIAL CAPITAL:
TURNING PLACES, KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES
INTO MAPPING PROCESSES**

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In countries with a colonial past, the physical and cultural morphology of indigenous landscapes is not only changing, it is also diversifying. This is due to a wide range of factors, among them but not limited to: the growth of urban indigenous populations; concurrent processes of resurgence and neocolonisation, both formal and informal; the restructuring of indigenous governance through land claims, co-management, repatriation; the shift toward conservation, heritage and tourism as territorial projects; the use of art, virtual reality and multimedia communications as means to represent, transmit, appropriate land-based knowledges.

All of these dynamics impact indigenous territorialities and identities, but so do the cartographic tools and visual regimes that are being mobilized to represent them. What then, in this context, constitutes indigenous territories, territorialities and subjectivities? We invoke the notion of “spatial capital”, although not uncritically, in order to explore those issues. As a starting point for discussion, we consider spatial capital to be the “all the resources accumulated by an actor, allowing him/her to take advantage, according to his/her strategy, of the use of the spatial dimension of society” (Lévy 2003). Along these lines, recent research has explored how indigenous spatial knowledge, individual and collective, get translated into maps (Hirt 2012; Pearce 2008; Thom 2009) and how participatory processes and mapping can reveal the inhabitant’s spatial capital (Burini, 2012; Noucher, 2014).

Building on this, what is the status of mapping as cultural translation? And how do mapping processes and tools, in turn, create indigenous knowledge? We aim to bring together a wide range of case studies and perspectives in order to reflect collectively, and from many geographical contexts, on these questions. We are particularly interested in papers examining:

- o The creation of indigenous knowledge through mapping tools and processes
- o New cartographies of indigenous governance
- o Mapping changing territorialities, representations and knowledges
- o Emergent visibilities through the use of geospatial technologies
- o The mapping of cities and built environments as indigenous cultural territories
- o The temporary/mobile indigenous landscapes of art, activism and performance
- o The cultural aesthetics and politics of indigenous visibility
- o The connections between heritage, aesthetics and envisioning future places
- o Etc.

If you are interested in participating, please send a title and abstract (150 words plus 6 keywords) to the organizers by **JANUARY 4TH 2018**.

Please feel free to contact the organizers if you have questions. Thank you!

References

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- LEVY, Jacques. “Capital spatial.” Dans Jacques Lévy et Michel Lussault (dir.) *Dictionnaire de la géographie et de l'espace des sociétés*. Paris : Belin, 2003 : 124-126.
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