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The Future of French Metropolis

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The future of French metropolis

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Summary

• Why did government decide to set up Metropolis?
  • The dream of equality against the reality of a polarized state
  • Local disputes slow down the integration process
  • Government’s will to boost the implementation of metropolis (loi du 27 janvier 2014)

• How to manage metropolis in a centralized state?
  • Giving metropolis competences to act (2016 and in the future)
  • Contracting with metropolis with two aims: innovation and cooperation (6 juillet 2016)

• And in the future?
  • Democracy, innovation, partnership and internationalization
Why did government decide to set up metropolis?
France: a polarized state which dreams itself as the heaven of equality.

• France always had a problem with metropolitics and cities’ growth because of its dream of equality.

• But the reality of France is that the 15 metropolis represent:
  • 39% of the population;
  • 43% of the jobs;
  • 51% of the French PIB;
  • And 70% of the patents
DES INÉGALITÉS DE REVENUS SE RÉDUISANT À L’ÉCHELLE RÉGIONALE MAIS AUGMENTANT LOCALEMENT

Revenu disponible médian en 2013
( en euros par unité de consommation, par commune)
- 21 870 à 46 250
- 20 185 à 21 870
- 18 630 à 20 185
- 10 020 à 18 630
- Données non disponibles

Population en 2013 (en nombre d’habitants par commune)
La surface des communes est proportionnelle à la population qu’elle porte en 2013.

Ex : Paris
2 229 621 hab.

Ex : Lyon
500 715 hab.

Ex : Grenoble
160 215 hab.
Évolution de la population des communes entre 1990 et 2013 (en %)
- Croissance (supérieure à +5 %)
- Stabilité (≤5 %)
- Décroissance (inférieure à -5 %)

Population municipale des communes en 2013 (en nombre d’habitants)
- 2 000 000
- 500 000
- 200 000
- 100 000
- 50 000
- 20 000
- 10 000
- 5 000
- moins de 2 000


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Why government decided to boost the process?

- 36 000 municipality

- The difficulties of intermunicipal cooperation: from 1992, a very slow movement of cooperation

- The problem of Paris and Marseille.
  - Marseille: cf. Vincent FOUCHIER’ speech
  - Paris: from the « Grand Pari » of former president Nicolas Sarkosy in 2008, to 2016 the difficulties of finding the best institution for Paris... The head of the state was less attractive with difficulties of transportation, housing, pollution and quarrels between rich and poor suburbs.
The set up of metropolis

• Loi 27 janvier 2014 *pour la modernisation de l’action publique territoriale et d’affirmation des métropoles*

• The choose of the word « affirmation » , the first time in France that politicians assumed in the title of a law the words « strengthening metropolis ».

• The juridical structuring of Grand Paris, Grand Lyon, Aix-Marseille-Provence métropole, and 12 others metropolis : a first step but unfinished.

• In the same moove, the 40% decrease in number of intermunicipality cooperation. A revolution in local administration in France.
But still some problem: i.e. the frontier of Metropole Grand Paris

Paris: 2,000,000 hab

MGP: 6,6 millions hab

Urban area: 12 millions hab
San Francisco Bay Area

San Francisco : 740 000 habitants
San Jose : 1 000 000 habitants
Oakland : 397 000 habitants

San Francisco Bay Area : 6,7 millions hab

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How to manage metropolis in a centralized state?
Strengthen the capability of French metropolis to act

• Giving metropolis more competences:
  • Economics, land use and urban planning, culture, university, transport, housing, public services and solidarity if they decided
  • Experimentation: i.e. innovation; web administration
  • Delegations from the state: i.e. housing benefits, employment

• Reinforce Metropolis by fusion between departement (county) and metropolis (the Macron’s Will): simplification, economy and efficacy. And achieve the Grand Paris.

• Deal with the attractiveness of being « métropole ». When marketing is stronger than coherence: 22 metropolis in France, from 250 000 hab to 6.6 millions.
Contracting with Metropolis

- Contracting with Metropolis: «Pacte Etat Métropoles 2016»
  - The point: the state now must deal with big cities and region. He can’t ignore them because they are stronger
  - A belief: shared and territorialised policies

- Two aims:
  - **Innovation**: metropolis are the center of innovation (smart cities, living lab, smart transportation, territorial food plan)
  - **Cooperation**: metropolis have a responsibility in the development of their neighborhood. They must be the growth locomotive of the state and help countryside and little cities not to collapse.
And in the future?
Reconcile French people with metropolis...

• Democracy : metropolis are not managed by directly elected president and sometimes are considered as too far from the citizens
  • For 2020, vote the directly election of the metropolis’presidents
  • Participatory democracy : i.e « Inventons la métropole » in Paris

• Innovation : metropolis could be technology incubator to create the cities of the future.
  • Transportation : Grenoble is testing new way of transportation (bike, electric car, public transportation...)
  • Housing : Rennes is testing new policy to reinforce social mix, for example with a unique rent for all social housing in each district of the city or cotation in housing allocations
  • Smart cities
Open French metropolis to the world...

- Partnership: building a metropolis conference to share good practicises and be more visible on the international stage.
  - Metropolis used to deal with the state or the region and they compete themselves to attract firms or people.
  - But from the United States or China, only Paris and Lyon could be known.
  - The aim: building a French metropolis network (Pierre VELTZ) to be stronger together

- Internationalization: Global metropolis a task force to act
  - Climate change: Anne Hidalgo and Michael Bloomberg with E. Macron the day after Trump decided to quite Climate global agreement;
#makeourplanetgreatagain

With

French metropolis too