Hybrid Governance in Urbanizing Society

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Agenda

1. On the boundaries between hybrid governance and sustainable urban development: HYPER and BEMINE
   • Why is this important?

2. Hybrid governance and HYPER project
   • Comparing public and private
   • Dimensions and extensions of hybrid governance

3. Questions for theorizing cities and urban development
Governing sustainable urban development – but how?

• BEMINE-project explores:

  • Trends of urbanization, particularly in the Finnish context

  • How should this be governed? How should we understand the governance principles for sustainable development?
    • E.g. MALPE-artefact (land-use (M), housing (A), traffic (L), service delivery (P), and business development (E)).

• Cities, city regions as settings of governance – hybridity in governance
PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT FOR HYBRID GOVERNANCE (HYPER)
Research project funded by the Academy of Finland (2017-2021)
https://hyper.uta.fi

Performance measurement of hybrid organizations. Special issue in Public Money & Management, 37 (6), 379-430
Perspectives to hybridity and hybrid governance

a) Mixed ownership between public and private actors
   • e.g. state-owned enterprises (SOEs) pursuing politically driven goals while exploiting business logics and operating on global financial markets (Thynne 2011; Hansman 1996)

b) Goal incongruence and competing institutional logics
   • the logic of profit-seeking vis-à-vis the logic of effectiveness, providing social impacts on society and citizens; E.g. health care firms using business logics supplementing or replacing the public provision of health care (Kreps & Monin 2011; Reay & Hinings 2009; Pache & Santos 2013; Ebrahim et al. 2014).

c) Multiplicity of funding arrangements between the public and private actors including investors and financiers
   • PPP (or PFI) arrangements in financing public service delivery, infrastructure projects (Hodge & Greve 2007)

d) Public and private forms of financial and social control
   • regulatory control of the markets, professional self-control and customer-driven market control within a single system of service delivery (Power 1997; Kickert 2001; Kelly 2005; Jordana & Levi-Faur 2004)
Public, private, hybrids: Perspectives to hybridity and hybrid governance

- Hybridity over time, hybrids in history
  - What defines public and private is temporally bound (cf. Societas Publicanorum in the Roman empire)
- Public, private and hybrids in the context of government reforms
  - Policy actions and reforms producing hybridity
- Research streams of public and private spheres of institutional life
  - Public and private goods (and bads)
  - Public and private organizations
  - Public and private interests
- Hybridity in research vs. hybridity through administrative pragmatism
Hybrid forms of governance – hollow politics or lousy business?

• With hybridity, it makes little sense to commit oneself to one universal notion of rationality to understand institutional action. Instead, we should explore organizational life through the lens of multiple rationalities. Fundamental virtues of economic reasoning and goal setting need to be combined with the idea of hybrid action, which involves a multiplicity of goals, audiences, accountabilities, and performances. The problem of understanding rationality in hybrid contexts lies in the difficulties of dealing with such multiplicity. (Vakkuri and Johanson 2018, 163)
Cities as unsettled, paradoxical settings for governance

• If we conceive of the city as a product of human progress, then harmony and prosperity become inevitable. In such a world, no dilemmas have to be resolved and no enduring conflicts stand in the way of a better future. That is not the city we live in, however. When we define the city in terms of its oppositions and paradoxes, the innumerable choices that affect and define our responsibilities to each other and to nature become unavoidable. Beauregard (2018, xiv)
Questions for urban development – dialogue between HYPER and BEMINE projects

• In HYPER project we ask:
  • How are hybrid activities organized in societies? How do they become organized?
  • How are hybrid activities valued and measured?
  • How to make sense of the inherent complexities in hybrid governance? How to understand (hidden) rationalities of hybrid governance? How to analyze paradoxes and contradictions of hybrid governance?

• …subsequent topics for sustainable urban development
  • Conflicting institutional logics of hybrid governance in the context of cities
  • Distinct value creation mechanisms in urban development
  • Planning and management artefacts through hybrid forms of governance
  • City development as hybrid activity
THANK YOU

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