IV WPSC
IV WORLD PLANNING SCHOOLS CONGRESS JULY 3-8TH 2016 RIO, BRAZIL

The last 30 years of the planning institution in Turkey in the projection of global economic policies[1]

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Keywords: Planning Institutions, central government, local government, planning laws, confusion in powers of planning, spread/leap, capital mobility.

There has been a constant pursuit on the part of the planning institution as well as of the central administration, as a result of the political and economic changes that have occurred in the world and in Turkey since the 1980's. The spatial projections created by the changes experienced in the planning institution during the course of this pursuit continues by leaving its profound marks in some regions.

Considering the policies pursued by developed capitalist countries for the last 35 years, it is seen that at the foundation lies the efforts of capitalism to overcome its own blockages and to maintain its existence. The fact that the Keynesian style of capital accumulation based on "the redistribution of wealth and the stimulation of demand" that had been implemented in the wake of the First World War came to a deadlock within roughly half a century; and the oil crisis of the 1970's has led capitalist countries led by the U.S.A. and Great Britain to pursue different strategies based on the monetarist outlook. The monetarist outlook which argues supply-side policies, and stresses the need for reduction of the state's intervention on economy and of state spending lays the foundation of the new approach. Thus a series of new entities have begun to form in political and social life, as in the matter of production and organization. At the forefront of these is the "neoliberal" economic policy which is new regime of

[1] This article was produced from the doctorate thesis titled "The Process of Institutional Change in Planning in Turkey after 1980 and its Spatial Influences: The Thrace Region Example" that had been prepared within the scope of the YTU Institute of Natural Sciences.

savings, a new political and social arrangement, defines as the reduction of the role of the state in economy.

In consequence, cities that have been led and created by increasing capital funds with what it essentially a profit-oriented manner since the era of Industrialization are changing and transforming in parallel with manufacturing methods, technologies, and systems of operation of the economy that have changed on a global scale. These changes and transformations are not confined to the bounds of the city alone, but are effective on a regional scale by altering the neighboring rural and urban areas along with them.

The changes that have occurred on a global scale since the 1980's have manifested their effects in Turkey as well; which led to deep-seated revisions in economic policies after 1980 and the free market economy becoming a priority of governments. Thus, the significance and approaches attributed by the new policies pursued in our country to urban spaces as the basic elements of development have changed accordingly. While the state had hitherto acted within the framework of a centralist structure and a centralist attitude to planning on the whole, conducting its planning operations via central institutions it chose to render local (administration) more effective in planning operations for the purpose of facilitating and expediting spatial investments within the framework of new economic policies.

First there are the efforts to make new regulations for the purpose of incorporating to the city the extensive residential areas that had been created illegally in cities. Some attempts have been made to solve the problems caused by the process of industrialization and urbanization in some cities since the 1960's via "building amnesty" laws and by the hand of local governments. The efforts to resolve local problems (the increasing shanty-town problem, the continued migration from rural to urban areas) and to join the global economy have increased, obliging the state to support and incentivize the local. To this end, the resources and powers of local administrations were increased for the purpose of supporting local investments and strengthening local administrations, and these were made more influential in planning operations.

As the above mentioned developments occurred to the benefit of local administrations on the one hand, on the other the state increased its interest in the real estate sector even further and undertook the construction of major projects particularly in the housing sector. Central institutions were once again strengthened after the 2010's, for the purpose of ensuring that intervention in the urban space was faster and single-handed, solution tools such as "special purpose plans" were developed, and central institutions were once again granted powers to define and plan such major project areas.

These re-structuring pursuits that are being rapidly experienced in Turkey have also expedited the change of urban and regional areas. At the forefront of these changing regions are Istanbul and its neighboring cities.

While industrial investments that have amassed in the metropolitan area of Istanbul in particular were relocated to new and cheaper spaces in the proximity of Istanbul, they have chosen to use their lands in Istanbul in the real estate sector which offers opportunities for much higher income. For this process to run fast and without problems, planning laws and institutions that hold powers of planning must be structured in a way that will facilitate and eliminate any problems that will emerge.

This study discusses **the process where capital funds have relocated their industrial investments outside the metropolitan area of Istanbul; the role of the planning institution on said process; the structures that have been developed within the planning institution to enable and facilitate the positioning of industry in its newly chosen spaces as well as the influences of these structures** in the process of economic-political change and transformation which occurred in Turkey after 1980. Within this framework, planning policies that have been pursued, the laws pertaining to planning that have been the determiners of these policies, and the stratification/confusion of power between this law and institutions have been investigated. Toward this end, the study discusses which institutions were granted power within the framework of regional and local, upper and lower scale planning stratification after 1980, as well as the content of this empowerment, the sectoral planning approach of central institutions and the "zoning" oriented approaches of local administrations and the types of roles they have assumed. Furthermore, the laws

issued during this process are addressed as well as the nature/extent of their efficacy in spatial planning processes.