CALL FOR PAPERS

2nd International Symposium

Properties in Transformation –
Broadening The research agenda: New themes and multidisciplinary regards

São Paulo-CEBRAP
16 and 17 December 2019

Organizers
Universidade Federal de São Paulo – Unifesp
University of Bristol Law School
Brazilian Center for Analysis and Planning – CEBRAP
University of São Paulo Faculty of Law (FDUSP)
Project History

The International Research Network ‘Properties in Transformation’ (http://propertiesintransformation.org) invites the submission of paper proposals to be considered for its 2nd International Symposium, on Properties in Transformation to be held in Sao Paulo (CEBRAP) on December 16 and 17, 2019. The event is the 3rd international meeting since the creation of the project and aims at broadening the ongoing conversations with new themes, innovative approaches and multidisciplinary regards.

The Network emerged in 2016, when a first workshop on the dynamic nature of the property in in São Paulo, thanks to the support of the ESRC IIA funds. At that meeting, a multidisciplinary research agenda was built around multiple projects (collective and individual) that share the desire to investigate, clarify and challenge how, through which mechanisms and with what consequences the notions, practices and dynamics of properties (which is willingly declined as plural to reject the idea of one concept of property) have undergone and are undergoing transformations and redefinitions.


The goals for the 2019 symposium

Properties and property rights/duties are constitutive of economic and social relations, both locally and on a transnational level. In particular, this is the case of the concept of property as exclusion that is adopted in most contemporary legal systems and that is the intellectual and historical product of Western legal tradition. According to this conception, property is often conceived and described as something stable, monolithic and not influenced by historical and contextual circumstances. Yet, throughout history and throughout places we see the emergence of multiple conceptions of what is and what is not property (including the absence of the concept of property in some languages and legal experiences), along with a series of challenges, attacks and attempts to redefine or reject the concept in favor of new conceptions. This is even
more evident at the time of climate emergency and widespread social inequality, two circumstances that require a structural reconsideration of properties as the legal basis of society. Yet, in the legal field property is rarely defined and is discussed predominantly in formal and static terms that tend to sacralize it, thus ignoring its genealogy, metamorphosis and plastic nature. The transformations of the properties, the underlying processes and their effects deserve, therefore, innovative and multi-disciplinary approaches that combine historical, political-economic, institutional and related factors to public policies, as well as the roles played by the institutions and processes Legal.

For the third symposium, we welcome with particular interest contributions that go beyond the context of property as a rural phenomenon, and that adopt perspectives of gender, race and class to the issues of properties, their transformations and the role of legal and non-legal processes in the creation and imagination of alternatives, just and innovative forms of organizing the relationships between people and between people and the environment.

Although property is often associated with law and lawyers, the symposium wants to create the space for multi-disciplinary conversations, so we will welcome contributions representing a variety of methodological approaches. Despite the original focus on Brazil, we seek to broaden the network of researchers, engaged professionals and activists who study, work and engage with properties, society and environment. We thus welcome contributors from around the world, and will be particularly glad to receive contributions concerning experiences and cases in other regions of the Global South.

For more information about the project, visit the website http://propertiesintransformation.org and our profiles on social networks.

Submission of proposals:

We have identified the following criteria to drive the choice of papers:

1) **Relationships between properties and gender, race and class:** in the selection of articles, priority will be given to works that analyze the relationships between properties and their transformations with gender, race and class. Other papers will also be considered, but we invite applicants to consider the way in which their work can engage with these themes.
2) **Adequacy to the theme of the project:** we are looking for interdisciplinary and empirical works that deal with issues related to how, through which mechanisms and with which consequences properties are transforming, changing and being redefined. The articles can mobilize any type of theoretical-methodological approach: quantitative or qualitative, sociological, anthropological, feminist, historical, economic, etc.

There is no thematic restriction, but we would be glad to receive papers on the following subjects, areas and approaches:

(1) **Properties, people and the planet:** Properties and non-properties and their connections with notions and practices of traditional, indigenous, formal/informal communities; property and recognition; new legal regimes for exploitation; property, ecology and the environment; properties and negative/positive externalities; intellectual property and natural/cultural heritage;

(2) **Property and property rights behind the 'technological revolution' and the 'gig-economy':** property of the network, property of the minerals that enable the existence of state-of-the-art technology, intellectual property over platforms, data and technologies, new forms of immaterial property, new legal challenges of ownership in the sharing economy;

(3) **Properties as politics:** Occupations of land, buildings and schools; property, democracy and political mobilization, social function of property, usucapio, disputes of property, unemployment, dispossession, agrarian reform, public/private space, nationalization, privatization;

(4) **Properties and the multiple commons:** ownership of common goods and Commons; property of maritime areas and maritime resources, sustainable and predatory exploitation, tragedy of the Commons, forms and instruments of Sharing, regulatory challenges, cooperative regimes, pasture funds in Brazil, property and anthropology;

(5) **Properties of the State/the State as properties:** normative and regulatory regimes of property, property as political and economic asset, public goods, property and public policies, privatization, nationalization, historical patrimony, legal reforms of the property, Eminent domain;
(6) **History and genealogies of contemporary notions of properties**: property in the history, property and institutional arrangements, forms and functions of property regimes;

(7) **Property, capitalism and post-capitalist political economy**: property and Finance, fintechs, accumulation, property right and economic development, progressive taxation, property, interest, debt, indebtedness;

(8) **Criminal law and property**: legality/lawlessness, criminalisation, legal protection of property, creditor, social conflict and property, crimes against property;

3) **Originality**: Articles already published will not be admitted.

4) **Format**: The papers must be submitted in the form of expanded abstract, with up to 1,000 words, in Portuguese, English or Spanish. The abstracts should contain the presentation of the central argument of the article, the methods employed, as well as the expected contribution of the article to the debate on the changes of property. Abstracts will have to be written according to the following rules: Times New Roman font, size 12; line spacing 1.5; justified alignment; margins of 2cm; footnotes and complete references at the end of the work.

5) **Deadline**: The submission of expanded abstracts should be carried out by August 30, 2019, by electronic address propriedadesemtransformacao@gmail.com, with the subject "Properties in Transformation: expanded summary". Two files are required: (i) one containing the name (s) of the author(s), institution and title of the article; and (ii) one containing the title of the article and the expanded summary. As the articles will be evaluated by blind evaluation - please make sure that the file does not contain your name and your institution.

6) **Authorship**: proposals for collective authorship are welcome.

**Selection Process:**

The expanded abstracts will be analyzed by the organizing committee and a limited number of proposals will be selected for presentation at the International seminar,
which takes place between the days 17 and 18 December, in Cebrap (located at Rua
Morgado de Mateus, 615, Vila Mariana, São Paulo, Brazil).

Unfortunately, the organizing institutions do not have the resources to cover travel,
lodging and food expenses. Certificates of acceptance of the paper could be issued at
the request of interested parties.

The final articles will have to be of a maximum of 8,000 words (bibliography not
included), in Portuguese, English or Spanish.

Invitees will have until November, 10th, 2019 to submit the complete articles.
Participation to the Seminar is conditional on the submission of the full article until
that deadline.

The articles should follow the same rules of formatting the expanded abstracts, and
should contain a home page with article title, abstract (100-250 words) and keywords
(up to 5).

The organizing committee intends to choose the best articles presented at the
International seminar to be part of a new edited volume.

Organizing Committee:

Tomaso Ferrando (University of Bristol Law School); Iagê Miola (Federal University of
São Paulo/Cebrap); Débora Ungaretti (USP Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism);
Diogo R. Coutinho (USP Faculty of Law); and Flávio Prol (Cebrap).