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English Summaries

Jon Mathieu, Mountain Wilderness. Championing the Alps with One Concept

This article outlines a conceptual history of "wilderness" in three forms: (1) as a colloquial orientation term for extensive rather than intensive land use; (2) as a religiously significant term, denoting, first, a remote place of temptation and later a place of promise; (3) as a scientific target term for modern protected areas. Transatlantic transfers are important for this conceptual history. The mountaineering conservation organisation Mountain Wilderness, founded in 1987, serves as a main example.

Elisa Frank, Nikolaus Heinzer, Emotional Practices and Modes of Relating. Cultural-Anthropological Perspectives on Wolf-Related Disputes in the Alpine Region

In this article the social debates concerning the increasing presence of wolves in Switzerland are explored from a cultural-anthropological perspective using two analytical concepts: emotional practices and modes of relating. These concepts help us see beyond established or often reproduced antagonisms between different interests and actor groups and enable us to focus on overarching cultural discourses, practices, and logics which, thus, substantially structure contemporary societal and political disputes about alpine environments.

Raphael Gerhardt, Bavaria and The Ec-Mountain Farming Programme of 1975. Scientific Expertise and Sub-National Actors in European Agricultural Policy

In 1973, the EC adopted a funding programme for hill-farming, which represented a partial deviation from the existing Common Agricultural Policy based only on market prices and productivity. Bavaria's Agricultural Promotion Act of 1970 served as a model for the programme, since it rewarded the efforts made by agriculture and forestry to preserve cultural landscapes. The support for hill-farming was linked to the importance of alpine landscapes for the growing tourism industry, whereas conflicts of use between land management and tourism continued to be ignored.

Martin Zückert, Agriculture in the Slovak and Austrian Mountain Regions. An Agent of Regional Transformation or a Problem Case in Conflicts of Use?

Despite fundamental system and structural differences, since 1945 Czechoslovakia and Austria have faced similar problems in their mountain regions. The rapidly progressing intensification of agriculture has reduced the extent of mountain farming in the peripheral zones. At the same time, nature conservation and tourism promoted other concepts of land use. Based on the example of Slovakia (as part of Czechoslovakia, federal since 1969) and Austria, this article examines the conflicts that arose and the plans drawn up since the 1970s for the management of mountain areas, the natural space there and the development of the landscape.

Valerie Braun, Andreas Haller, Origins and Development of Nature Parks. The Example of Tyrol in the Austrian Alps

The first nature parks in Austria were established as early as 1962 to offer the urban population of Vienna recreational opportunities in suitable cultural and natural areas. Over time, the concept of nature parks changed to areas in which to promote sustainable tourism and to preserve landscapes of cultural importance. The interests in the use of the high mountains in Tyrol are very different and characterised by competition between the stakeholders involved. Using the example of today's Tyrolean nature parks Ötztal, Kaunergrat and Karwendel, we outline conflicts of use between actors from agriculture, the tourism industry, the energy industry, nature conservation organisations, and public administration in the Alpine region.

Christina Pichler-Koban, Michael Jungmeier, From Stopgap Solution to International Model Region. History of Use and Conflict in the Nockberge between Hoteldorf and Biosphere Reserve (1970 to 2020)

In the 1970s, tourism projects met with resistance from conservationists and citizens in the Carinthian Nockberge. The plans were rejected in a referendum. The establishment of a national park offered a development alternative. A national park complying with international standards, in which alpine farming would be abandoned, was not feasible, the establishment of a «Carinthian National Park» failed. Around 2000, the transformation into a biosphere reserve began, which was internationally recognised by UNESCO in 2012. The history of the associated conflicts in the Nockberge provides a regional case study that can be comprehensibly incorporated into debates about the Alpine region.

Vittorio Tigrino, Giulia Beltrametti, Redefining Rights, Locality and Natural Resources through Institutional Conflicts. A Case Study in the Maritime Alps (Italy, 20th Century)

The essay examines the contemporary case study of the reactivation of a local institution for commons management. The theme of collective property is often associated with the management of the environment, landscape and "natural heritage" – a connection that in Italy is consolidated by a legislation which includes common assets among the "landscapes" to be safeguarded – and it is precisely this connection that has been decisive for the re-construction of the local institution and the re-activation of its rights, analysed in the essay. The central question – of a clearly applicative nature – is whether common resource management today can offer a model for, if not a concrete solution to, the problem of the development and enhancement of rural areas and environmental heritage. The essay highlights the active role played by local social groups, the relationship that their collective claims have with historical legitimacy, but also the strong discontinuities that characterise the relationship with the resources they "activate".

Martin Stuber, Milk Pipeline and Snow Cannons. Joint Ownership and Integrated Regional Planning in the Chur Alps in Arosa

The Chur Alps in Arosa present to the outside world the harmonious image of a parallel intensification of the alpine economy and tourism. This is underpinned by an integrated spatial system emerging from the shared ownership of the Corporation of Citizens and the Municipality of residents of Chur. On the one hand, a largely conflict-free development model is reconstructed, which balances different economic interests and disparities through cross-financing and institutionalised internal communication between the different groups of actors. On the other hand, the external concerns of landscape protection and biodiversity draw attention to the limits of integration by bouncing off integrated spatial system and leading to fierce controversy in the local press.

Sebastian De Pretto, No Space for Conflicts? Power Structures and Path Dependence around Lac D' Émosson, 1953–1975

The launch of the Lac d'Emosson hydropower dam in the Trient Valley of Valais in 1975 met with hardly any criticism in the Swiss media of this second-largest storage lake in the country. Indeed, the community of Finhaut had voluntarily granted the concession for the dam, agreeing to give up its pastureland with the summer settlement on it. This last resettlement action in the Swiss Alps is remarkable in that the 1970s are known as a decade of strong nature and heritage protection movements as well as a transitional phase from hydro- to nuclear energy. What kinds of site-related factors, power structures and path dependences made this dam possible without any opposition? The article explores this question, by also reflecting on the circumstances under which hydraulic engineering in Switzerland has gone hand in hand with varying degrees of protest over the past century.

Fabian Zimmer, Renegotiating the Public Interest. EDF's Alpine Hydropower Constructions and Industrial Film (1940s–1960s)

This paper analyses and contextualises industrial films produced or commissioned by Electricité de France (EDF) in the post-war period, about the construction of hydroelectric dams in the French Alps. As the French State power company, EDF had an almost undisputed mandate to act in the national interest, and therefore to overrule the interests of local communities. Focussing on a number of films about two major dam projects that entailed the submersion of alpine villages – the Tignes dam and the Serre-Ponçon dam – I demonstrate how this mandate was challenged, and how EDF tried to renegotiate

their claim to act in the public interest by using films as an instrument of corporate communication. Already in their early decades, I argue, EDF's filmic narratives acknowledged the repercussions of their alpine hydropower projects on the landscape, livelihoods and emotions of the population concerned – without however moving towards more participatory planning practices.

Blaž Komac, Matija Zorn, Hydropower Landscape in the Slovenian Alps
Pros and Cons of Building Hydropower Plants in the Upper Soča Valley

In Slovenia, four large hydroelectric power plants were built on the Soča River, before and after World War II. In the 1960s, an initiative was taken to dam its headwaters near the town of Bovec. At that time, the autocratic regime was opposed by locals, experts and an emerging environmental movement. In the late 1970s, plans to dam the river at Kobarid ended with the passing of the Soča Act. In the 1980s, the damming of the Idrijca River also met with fierce opposition. Currently, hydropower plants on the Soča River have an average annual energy production of 1,100 GWh, but the river's potential is estimated to be up to 1,800 GWh. Therefore, initiatives to build dams continue. In this paper, we present the development of hydropower use of an alpine landscape and analyse the reasons and arguments against it.

Romed Aschwanden, Maria Buck, Kira J. Schmidt, Tense Atmosphere in the Alps. Resistance against Transit
Traffic at the Brenner and Gotthard Passes

Since the 1970s, motorised goods transit in the Alpine region has prompted vehement resistance on the part of concerned residents and environmentalists. The two most heavily used border crossings, the Brenner Pass in Tyrol (Austria) and the Gotthard Pass in Switzerland, have been particularly affected by the external impact of traffic and have become centres of social resistance. From a bottom-up and comparative perspective, this article explores the land-use conflicts caused by transit traffic in the limited living, economic and natural space of the Alpine valleys. Public debate has reflected diverging attitudes to the economy and ecology as well as to regionalisation and Europeanisation. Ultimately, however, questions are raised about the local self-determination of the Alpine population.

Emma-Sophie Mouret, A Network under Pressure: Issues and Conflicts in the Management of Mountain Roads. The Example of the Vercors

Mountain roads are a relevant subject for studying conflicts of use. They are exploited for different uses related to assigned functions. In this way, roads are the centre of various economic development models and highlight leadership struggles at various scales. The Vercors mountain range road system offers clear examples. This network is the principal access way to the Vercors for inhabitants, services, log truck drivers, as well as tourists and serves winter use and mountain sports. Since the 1970s, road plans have highlighted conflicts in these models for mountain areas. All these elements indicate the role played by roads in the interaction between inhabitants, environment and regional government administrations in a global transition context.

Aleksander Panjek, The 'Farming Family' in Slovenian Styria in 1527 and the "Eastern Alpine Type"

This paper deals with the history of families in the Alpine area by testing for the existence of an Eastern Alpine "Bauer" (i.e., farmer) family in Slovenian-populated Styria, as proposed, in particular, by Albera and Mathieu's recent research findings. The verification is based on a re-elaboration of the data from a census carried out for taxation purposes in 1527, already published by Koropec. In the early 16th century, in the Alpine region of Slovenian Styria the nuclear family was the rule. Household members besides parents and their children were concentrated in clusters of five or more adult and teenage members. The average number of components aged over 12 was 3.2 members per household, while with children the expected average was 5 members. Not solely in Slovenian Styria in general, but also in its Alpine part, families that, by size and composition, matched the "Eastern alpine type" were a minority, quantifiable between a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 18 percent of all family units.

Ilaria Scaglia, Internationalism in the Alps in the Interwar Period Politics, Aesthetics, Emotions

This article tracks the process through which the Alps became a space, an image, and a fundamental symbol for the internationalist movement. It examines contemporary events and literary and film productions; the role played by internationalist institutions–most notably the League of Nations and the UIAA; and those opportunities for interacting that turned out to be the substance of internationalism in the interwar period. It then analyses the process

through which alpinists and mountaineers became a model for international citizenship, influencing the concept of internationalism for decades to follow.

Andrea Membretti, Living in the Alpine Metro-mountain, between Vertical Migrations and new *Restanza*

Is the long phase of socio-economic crisis and massive depopulation of the Italian Alps coming to an end? The phenomenon of neo-population seems to confirm that it is the case. Adopting a sociological, territorialist and "metro-mountain" approach – focused on new socio-demographic connections between cities and mountains – this article presents a typology of the inhabitants of the Italian Alps centred on the new populations, made up above all of young people, whose socio-personal data and motivational/value characteristics strongly challenge the stereotypes of mountains as a residual and declining world.