

Human Scale Development... away from bullets and machines

Summary

The expansion of the modern state implies the continuous conquer of territory, and people, in order to access to resources. This conquer expresses as the continuous substitution of production models from peasant self-sustainable to agro-industrial and/or extractive, resulting in the territorial homogenization of production. This substitution, associated to different conceptions of development, has generated a "de-territorialization" process or a void integration of the territory leading the uneven presence of the state. As a result the low capacity of the state to provide the tools of formalization of property rights on the land, restraining the decision power on the use of land and the priority on the development itself.

People in rural areas exist in a tight relation with the territory, in a primary relation of dependency. Therefore the process of development of human settlements in a territory is determined by the use that is given to it (Max-Neef, 1994).

The substitution of production models associated to different notions of development has generated a process of "de-territorialization" (Gudynas, 2005) or void integration of the territory. Implying a differentiated presence of the state in the territory (González, 2003). This condition derives as a consequence the low capacity of the state, among other functions, to provide the tools of formalization of the use

Soledad Granada (Hamburg Universität)
smgranadac@gmail.com

Theoretical Claims: Clashing conceptions of development

There is an evident help from the **liberal state** (prevailing model of modern state) in perpetuating the center-periphery separation at the regional and local spheres, and the positioning of the global peripheries (so called third world, global south, among other euphemisms) only as exploiters of raw material. Despite the existence of a real -material- dependency, of the "center" from the "periphery" and not financial as it exists in the other direction. The state in the "periphery" is tied to the continuous dispute for the status quo in the seek for the loot that national resources represent, the territory. In this model development is understood as **economic growth**, implying a growing asymmetry between primary economies and industrialized ones, as well as within the centers and the peripheries within the global periphery.

As a proposal to alter the status quo, Manfred Max-Neef (Chilean economist and Alternative Nobel Peace Prize in 1983 -Right Livelihood-), published in 1994 "**Human Scale Development**", as a reaction to the principles of the Washington Consensus. He presents a critical vision full of proposals about the concept of development "as we know it". The existence of a central state and of the international trade is recognized, *ergo*, it is a realist vision of development. focused on the human scale and in how to connect it through the different levels of society of society. He argues in favor of a development model based on self-dependency instead of the current based on asymmetric dependencies. This self-dependency is not understood as anarchic isolation, but rather as horizontal dependency.

De-territorialization refers to the modifications in the state's capacity to regulate the use of territory where it has lost the capacity to bring justice, to control the environmental impacts or to manage the resource extraction. Those capacities appear to be bigger or more politically viable when is to guarantee economic stability (exports) and to fulfill external (international) commercial compromises.

Case 1: Alto Patía (Nariño, Colombia)

- Prescriptive peacebuilding initiative, promoted by USAID and implemented through Colombian state central institution.
- High national and international military engagement. Makes community target of non-state armed groups, by requiring to side with state forces.
- **Coca crops substitution for coffee:**
- From an illegal to a legal internationally priced commodity.
- Focused on **economic growth**.
- Creates economic dependency connected though banking, debt.
- Monoculture.
- Individually implemented, neglecting previews social capital creation.



Case 2: Carare (Santander, Colombia)

- Elicitive, community based peacebuilding initiative.
- Neutrality as protection mechanism.
- Academia had a role on visibilization and international civil society engagement (alternative Nobel peace prize).
- **Collectivization** of land and production. Pluriculture.
- Addresses **coca** cultivation substituting for **subsistence** production.
- Promotes autonomy and sustainability.
- Social capital creation, associational life and social transformation of community. Spread through networks of peasant organizations.
- Potential for statebuilding. Form below.

Mechanisms:

Liberal state channels of articulation of violence:

- ❖ Direct Violence {Civil War, disputed territories}
- ❖ Structural political violence {Demand to side-with army}
- ❖ Structural economic violence {Debt, dependency, poverty, inequality}
- ❖ Cultural violence {Monoculture}

Hypothesis: Grassroots conflict resolution:

