

claim as new or unique are in fact neither. Second, there are no maps in the volume and very few graphs. Their absence leads to conclusions that geographers would not readily accept given the problems associated with official Chinese data and official Chinese concerns about regional disparities that have developed as a result of the post-Mao economic reforms. Third, it appears that virtually no field work was done when writing these papers, so that conclusions regarding land use changes or the impact of over-bounding of cities, while statistically correct, do not reflect the changing realities of Chinese urban landscapes.

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KNOWLEDGE, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT, INSTITUTIONS AND INNOVATION IN TERRITORIAL PERSPECTIVE, Edited by Roger Hyter and Richard Le Heron. Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2002.

Knowledge, Industry and Environment is the outcome of a meeting of the IGU (International Geographical Union) Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Space, held in Dongguan, Southern China, in 2000. At the core of the volume's assembled articles is the geographical debate over the twofold, somewhat conflicting attitudes and priorities toward *economics* and *environment*. A key theme of the collection is the impact of education, learning and innovation, and institution and technology on the formation and realization of development strategies capable of supporting sustainable [green] societies. Within the economic geography domain, the spatial and territorial aspects of *knowledge, industry, and the environment* constitute the heart of efforts to conceptualize the interface between economy and environment.

Knowledge, Industry and Environment emphasizes the link of knowledge, industrial processes, and the environment in making a 'new green techno-economic-[spatial] paradigm of capitalism'. In so doing it covers four themes:

- (1) A review of the theoretical qualities of techno-economic paradigms and industrialization, aimed at revealing the leading factors for institution-building strategies geared to innovation and sustainable development;
- (2) The role of the world's agglomerated territorial spaces as the arena where viable and growing economic activities challenge the environment;
- (3) An evaluation of how regulation and governance of industrial-environmental processes have led to sustainable interactions;
- (4) The role of new knowledge and of learning in shaping the dynamics of spatial coexistence between industry and the environment.

Like most collections of articles, *Knowledge, Industry and Environment* contains good and less impressive presentations. This review covers a selection of relevant

presentations, chosen either because of the reviewer's respect for the authors' scholarship or because of the paper's value for the stated essence of the collection, the environment. In the editors' words, the book takes a strong position on the association of *Knowledge, Industry and Environment*. Its special merit is its objective to move from the conceptual to the empirical, namely from theoretical approaches to those engaged in the specifics or the reality of life within a territorial context.

Hayter and Le Heron in their "Industrialization, techno-economic paradigms and the environment" admit that the industrial geography research agenda has been slow to respond to the low priority assigned by corporations to environmental issues. Following a review of a few 'green' [or semi-green] paradigms they admit further that industrial geographers are suspicious of universal models. Since the industrial sector, like many other spatial elements, is place-differentiated, locally oriented environmental policies seem to be more effective. Even the green TEP is not the ultimate solution. In other words, a lot of work still lies ahead.

Sam Oak Park, a distinguished scholar in the widening research on the role of the knowledge-based [intensive] economy, allows that notwithstanding growing global attention to environmental issues and to sustainability, very little has been done to this end in the real world. Although much of his article is aimed at 'sustainable' environmental concerns, he leaves us with a somewhat fuzzy idea of what 'sustainable' really means, and with very few tools for real action. Instead, Park is generous to propose their implicit by saying: "we should emphasize the importance of industrial ecology approach"; "innovative partnerships between private and public sectors and the environment are needed; "without significant changes in individual attitudes..."; and other such statements.

Among the articles dealing with a particular territorial context the following three deserve attention. The first is Soyez's "Environmental knowledge, the power of framing and industrial change". Soyez evaluates the process of adapting a 'greening of industry' policy through 'eco-modernization'. The paper reviews the stages of adopting a 'greening policy' from a resistance, or rather lack of interest stage before the 1960s to wider recognition in the 1990s. He describes the experiences of adoption of this policy in two regions: the forests of British Columbia (Canada) and the role of NGOs (non-profit groups financially independent of state or business sectors) and the 'green' think tanks in Washington DC. On the basis of the two cases, Soyez offers a topical and conceptual evaluation of the 'greening' policy, admitting that challenges for economic geography research still lie ahead.

The second is Schulz's "Environmental service-providers, knowledge transfer, and the greening of industry". Schulz draws our attention to the emerging role of the producers' services in the so-called 'environmental [greening] industry'. Schulz discloses preliminary observations from his comparative studies in France and Germany. The merit of Schulz's case studies is that they represent different national and regional regulation systems. In his conclusion Schulz lists some issues for additional consideration and future research.

The third paper is Braun's "Competitive and green? Determinants of success in the manufacturing sector". Braun's point of departure is the growing interest in the concept of the 'greening the industry' by corporate [environmental] agencies in late 1980s, and the creation of the British Standards in early 1990s. Braun examines the theme of successful industrial environmental management in Germany in two steps: the first reveals how far the central goals of industrial environmental management were attained; the second identifies the significant statistical attributes of a successful environmental management. Braun concludes by proposing policy measures for attaining workable 'greening of industry' policies.

Notwithstanding the prime objective of the Dongguan meeting and of the *Knowledge, Industry and Environment* volume, a number of its articles focus on 'knowledge-based' industries but shy away from their impact on the environment. However, like most collections of articles published by the IGU Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Space meetings, the present volume is carefully edited, and makes a significant contribution to contemporary economic geography.

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ISRAEL: CHALLENGES TO IDENTITY, DEMOCRACY AND THE STATE,
by Clive Jones and Emma C. Murphy. London and New York: Routledge (2002).

Israel: Challenges to Identity, Democracy and the State is an attempt to explore and analyze Israeli politics through the lenses of identity construction. The book maps to the readers the vast academic approaches and research that were developed in Israel in the last two decades, including both traditional and more critical social science paradigms. Yet, the book, as stated by the authors themselves, aims to go beyond the descriptive level of the political transformations since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, and to suggest that identity remains Israel's most pressing security dilemma. Moreover, the centrality of this argument is so significant that the authors propose that "only with a solution to this issue will Israelis ever be able to finally claim the physical boundaries of their state" (p. 135).

Let me suggest that such strong argument which highlights the role of identity construction and its dynamics is an important contribution of this book. This is especially the case for those who are interested in Israeli and Middle East studies, which often suffer from an over emphasis on macro scale geopolitical debates and neglect the micro understanding of social processes. In this context, it is important to note that the authors integrate identity discourse into many classical debates in political and social sciences.

In the first chapter, "Political Structures and Social Processes", they explore Israeli internal ethnic stratification as a fundamental theoretical and analytical tool