

SOFT SPACES IN EUROPE

RE-NEGOTIATING GOVERNANCE,
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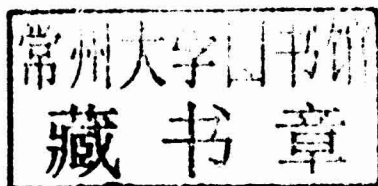
REGIONS AND CITIES

EDITED BY PHIL ALLMENDINGER,
GRAHAM HAUGHTON, JÖRG KNIELING
AND FRANK OTHENGRAFEN

Soft Spaces in Europe

Re-negotiating governance, boundaries
and borders

**Edited by Phil Allmendinger,
Graham Haughton, Jörg Knieling and
Frank Othengrafen**



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Soft Spaces in Europe

The past thirty years have seen a proliferation of new forms of territorial governance that have come to co-exist with, and complement, formal territorial spaces of government. These governance experiments have resulted in the creation of soft spaces, new geographies often with blurred boundaries that eschew existing political-territorial boundaries of elected tiers of government. The emergence of new, non-statutory or informal spaces can be found at multiple levels across Europe, in a variety of circumstances, and with diverse aims and rationales.

This book moves beyond theory to examine the practice of soft spaces. It employs an empirical approach to better understand the various practices and rationalities of soft spaces and how they manifest themselves in different planning contexts. By looking at the effects of new forms of spatial governance and the role of spatial planning in north-western Europe, this book analyses discursive changes in planning policies in selected metropolitan areas and cross-border regions. The result is an exploration of how these processes influence the emergence of soft spaces, governance arrangements and the role of statutory planning in different contexts.

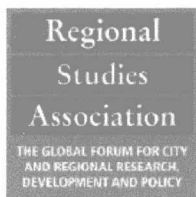
This book moves us towards a deeper understanding of space and place, territorial governance and network governance.

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