



The Evolution of Planning Thought

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Louis Albrechts is professor emeritus of strategic spatial planning at the department of architecture, urbanism and planning at the University of Leuven, Belgium. He has master degrees in urban and regional planning, social studies, the study of developing countries and a PhD in urban and regional planning from the University of Leuven. He has been a full professor at the University of Leuven from 1987 till 2007 and was a visiting professor at the Universities of Poznan, Pecs, Lille and Newcastle upon Tyne. He is also a visiting research fellow at the University of West Australia, Perth. Louis Albrechts is the corresponding member of the German Academy for Research and Planning, founder and editor of the journal *European Planning Studies*, a member of the editorial board of several international journals and the chair of the first (Shanghai, 2001) and second (Mexico-City, 2006) World Planning Schools Congresses. He was president of the Association of European Schools of Planning and Chair of the Advisory Board of the global Research Network on Human Settlements (UN-Habitat HS-Net). Louis Albrechts was in charge of some 150 research projects financed by local, regional, national and international institutions. He was in charge of the strategic plan for Flanders (1992-1996) and was the scientific coordinator for the transport plan for Flanders (1999-2000). Louis Albrechts has published in Dutch, English, German, French, Chinese, Italian, Turkish and Spanish and is the author/editor of 16 books, some 90 chapters in international books and over 60 articles in leading international journals with blind peer review. From 2001 onwards he is chair of the planning commission of his hometown. His current research interests include: the practice and nature of strategic spatial planning; the link between plan and implementation; planning as a creative process; issues of power in planning; the gap between plan-making, political decision-making and implementation; sustainability in strategic planning; and diversity in planning.