



Braudel Centre

**SOCIAL COHESION
AN INTERPRETATIVE PROPOSAL**

editor Guido Nicolosi



ed.it

Braudel Centre

SOCIAL COHESION AN INTERPRETATIVE PROPOSAL

editor Guido Nicolosi

ed.it

Copyright © 2007 ed.it
Via Caronda, 171
95128 Catania - Italy
<http://www.editpress.it>
info@editpress.it
All rights reserved
First Edition: december 2007
ISBN 978-88-89726-18-1
Printed in Italy

Translated by:
Stephen Conway

Cover by:
badcomunicazione.com

Social Cohesion.
An interpretative proposal /
editor Guido Nicolosi. -
Catania : ed.it, 2007. -
312 p. ; 21 cm
eBook version:
<http://www.editpress.it/0805.htm>
ISBN 978-88-89726-18-1
302 Social interaction

Partfinanced by
ERDF - Interreg III C-South
DEDEC-SDEC Project



North East **SOUTH** West
 **INTERREG III C**



Contents

- 9 Introduction *Guido Nicolosi*

Part I

The ESDP amid criticism and opportunity

- 13 The creation and development of the ESDP from the Lisbon strategy to the third Report on Cohesion
Francesco Caudullo
- 39 Territorial social cohesion as represented in the ESDP: the limits of an innovative concept and paradigm
Gaia Napoli

Part II

Analysis of critical conditions for territorial social cohesion of Catania

- 53 Premise
Guido Nicolosi
- 57 Demographic analysis and development prospects
Guido Nicolosi
- 79 Demographic changes and new family structures
Tiziana Briulotta
- 117 Immigration and ethnic fragmentation
Anna Orofino
- 157 The conditions of gender inequality in opportunity
Anna Orofino

- 173 Migration in a knowledge society
Guido Nicolosi
- 189 Security and social cohesion
Giuseppe Lorenti
- 215 Urban areas
Gaia Napoli
- 237 Economic activity and the productive sectors in the
province of Catania
Chiara Platania
- 257 The third sector and social enterprises
Gaia Napoli
- 271 Conclusions
Guido Nicolosi

Part III

Proposals for a revision of the ESDP

- 277 Recover the lines of development of the EU's new
political strategies
Francesco Caudullo, Gaia Napoli
- 289 A model for a new relationship between Universities
and the Territory: the human, social and cultural infra-
structures
Pietro Barcellona
- 307 Authors

Social Cohesion.
An interpretative proposal

Introduction

Guido Nicolosi

This research has been carried out in the scope of the DEDEL-SDEC project financed by the EU with Interreg 3C South funds. Our final objective is to produce an analytical document that can form part of the current European debate on the revision of the European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP or SDEC in French).

The ESDP is a non-binding intergovernmental document which was finalised in Potsdam in 1999 during the informal Council of ministers responsible for the spatial planning; after a long and intense preparation process (the first proposals date back to 1960), it aimed at improving the cooperation between the sectoral community policies that have a significant impact on the territory.

The ESDP presented the problem of the EU's territorial development cohesion, bringing forward certain important political-strategic changes (looking, amongst other things, at the then-future expansion to the east). It did this using an explanatory paradigm which was oriented towards overcoming the previous approaches' economic and infrastructural reductionisms, or at least that was the intention. The document's core speaks of the so-called "Triangle of Objectives", or rather: a balanced, lasting development of the European area which is achievable only with the coinciding cultivation of all three dimensions that characterize the development: economy, society and environment.

It is our opinion that these premises (which correspond to as many promises) have only been satisfied in part. The very document proves this to be the case. In particular, all too often the

document has portrayed the concept of social cohesion using economic indicators only.

The target of the research carried out by the Centro Braudel is three-fold: primarily, in part one (*destruens*), after having outlined, in historical terms, the excursus that brought about the ESDP's establishment, the document's poor concept of territorial social cohesion is examined; part two proposes a series of indicators which are more socially orientated, which can be integrated with the common economic interpretation (not only that of the ESDP) of social cohesion, and applies them in the analysis of the province of Catania (but still in the scope of the broader southern context); in the third part a new explanatory model of the social cohesion concept is proposed in the light of the empirical evidence gathered.

Authors

Pietro Barcellona, professor of Philosophy of Law and Director of the Centro Braudel of the University of Catania. He has been member of the Consiglio Superiore della Magistratura and member of the Italian Parliament. He has written many books and essays that have been published by the main Italian book-publishers.

Tiziana Briulotta, PhD in Sociology, collaborates with Family Sociology cathedra in Catania University. Hers more important publications regard essays about matrimonial instability, violence against women, conciliation policy and moonlighting.

Francesco Caudullo, PhD in “Profili della cittadinanza nella costruzione dell’Europa”, He is a Scientific Technician of the University of Catania with research competence on “Historical development of migration policies in Western Europe”, He collaborates with the Centro Braudel.

Giuseppe Lorenti, journalist and writer, He collaborates with the Centro Braudel as expert on european projects. He has made reportages and documentaries for RaiDue, RaiTre and Telepiù.

Gaia Napoli, Master degree in “Politiche sociali, pari opportunità e culture mediterranee” University of Catania, coordinator and teacher of Italian (L2), She collaborates with the Centro Braudel.

Guido Nicolosi, Researcher on Sociology of cultural and communication processes of the University of Catania. He collaborates with the Centro Braudel.

Anna Orofino, PhD student in “Profili della cittadinanza nella costruzione dell’Europa” University of Catania, dealing with migration policies and equal opportunities.

Chiara Platania, PhD in “Profili della cittadinanza nella costruzione dell’Europa”, She deals with Ethic and nutrition. She has directed researches about Food farming and wine production sectors in the Eastern sicily.

Finito di stampare nel mese di Dicembre 2007
per conto di ED.IT - Catania
presso Global Print - Gorgonzola (Milano)

