

TERRITORIO ITALIA: THE NEW AGENZIA DEL TERRITORIO REVIEW

All men by nature, desire to know.
Aristotele

In its tenth year, the Agenzia del Territorio is embarking on a new publication endeavour with this first issue of the scientific journal "Territorio Italia."

Continuing a long tradition, the journal is heir to the prestigious *Rivista del Catasto e dei Servizi Tecnici Erariali* (Journal of the Cadastre and Property Assessment Services), founded in 1933 and which, for years, served as an important reference point in the scientific debate regarding the land registry and cartography. The journal was able to follow and influence the evolution of technical-scientific thinking in the field through the synthesis of old and new ideas and visions, approaches and experiences born at different times and expressions of different socio-historical contexts. All of this came about thanks to the untiring and qualified work of its directors among whom we would like to recall Prof. Enrico Vitelli, the journal's last director and prominent figure in the world of Geomatic science, author of important and innovative work in the field of surveying and mapping and founding member of the *Società Italiana di Fotogrammetria e Topografia* (Italian Society of Photogrammetry and Topography).

This precious legacy became a source of programmatic inspiration when the agency set out to adapt its past editorial experience to the world's current context.

Today, this institution, created as a result of the reform of the tax administration, pursuant to statutory mandate, seeks to improve and dedicate growing attention to its user/stakeholders. It accomplishes this through the design of solutions and delivery of services that can respond effectively and efficiently to the demands of institutions and administrations, various categories of stakeholders, and citizens. The publication of this new journal should be placed in this context. It will seek to stimulate debate revolving around its current assets: Cartography and Land Registry, Disclosure of Real Estate Records, Real Estate Market Observatory and Assessment and, more generally, around issues relating to regional management in terms of sustainability and quality.

"Territorio Italia " was born as a publishing project to provide a research tool and, in same time, a tool for discussion aimed at creating mutual understanding, interaction and learning among different experiences, but also space for information, communication and education.

A journal with great scientific value, thanks to bilingual versions (English and Italian) of the articles published, "Territorio Italia " intends to cross national borders, involving public administrations, professional associations and organizations working in the sector in various capacities.

Today in our globalized society, it is undeniable that the space devoted to scientific communications and the relationship between science and society have become more frequent and accessible, facing issues from the most varied points of view.

Let us not forget, however, that current technologies have also enabled new forms of communication, new places for virtual dialogue from the open lab to websites, from citizens' networks to blogs - having an enormous capacity to "socialize" knowledge and experiences.

The tremendous importance of these new forms of knowledge - so-called participatory forms - can strengthen the citizenship of each individual in the public space of science and technology. At the same time, these new forms allow the development of ethics that can reposition and rethink scientific and technological knowledge not only as a lever of social and economic development but, more importantly, as a common good and civil right.

In this light, I hope that the new journal, as a tool of scientific knowledge and new technologies, while in the traditional paper form, can become a means for better understanding "democracy," which includes increasing knowledge for decision-making and citizen participation.

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