

Logistics strategies and Territories

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Coordinated by Vincent Frigant and Damien Talbot



Call for contributions

Management studies have yet to give sufficient airing to the geography of logistics channels (Paché, 2006, Masson and Petiot, 2013). An initial line of questioning arose with analyses of lean flows, which seemed to indicate that just-in-time constraints come with a similarly strong constraint of suppliers and customers having to operate in geographic proximity. However, it was rapidly demonstrated that despite the advent of suppliers parks (Adam-Ledunois and Renault, 2008), developments in the field of logistics have frequently looked past geographic proximity constraints (Linge, 1991; Burmeister, Colletis-Wahl, 1997). As a consequence, a large part of analytical works concluded that the link between logistics and local territories was very passive - explaining widespread disinterest in this topic.

More recent theoretical works on value chain concept have enabled logistics to transcend operational discussions; Logistics become a more core concept in strategic thinking. Henceforth it is possible to talk about logistics being strategic in the fullest sense of this term (Fabbe-Costes et al., 2014; Roveillo et al., 2012). Today's logistics firms implement anchoring and globalization actions that affect many local territories (Coe, 2014). This explains recent publications' suggestion that these professional strategies be revisited with a new focus on how they are influenced by the spatial frameworks within which they are deployed (Akyelken, Nihan, 2014). In turn, this justifies scrutiny of interactions between logistics and space, no longer from an operational perspective alone but from a strategic angle as well.

This special issue of the review *Logistique & Management* offers texts that renew and extend this connection. The topics it broaches include:

- Short supply chains. Geographic proximity between members of a logistics network is often considered as a performance factor - but this merits further scrutiny.
- Logistics strategy and territorial development. Many territories (city, region...) rely on logistics activities for their development purposes and it is worth monitoring the results.
- Urban logistics. There is a possibility that urban areas constitute peculiar territories as far as the deployment of logistics processes is concerned.
- Proximity and logistics strategies. The focus here is on how local value chains fit into global networks, and on the interlinkage between anchoring vs. delocalisation logistics strategies.
- Sustainability of value chains: Green/Sustainable supply chain management and Territories.
- etc.

Proposed articles could be written in English or French. They should meet *Logistique & Management* norms and be submitted before **30 November 2016** on the dedicated Scholarone platform (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tlam>)

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