



## Justice et injustices spatiales, Nanterre 2008

### *Spatial justice and planning* *Justice spatiale et aménagement*

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The traditional argument for spatial planning is that it incorporates the public interest into the development of land by suppressing selfish actions and coordinating multiple activities. I examine how the public interest is interpreted in contemporary planning practice, arguing that the primary approach incorporates the principles of utilitarianism. I proceed by first recapitulating the critique of utilitarianism then discuss the currently dominant direction in planning theory that stresses public participation and deliberation and compare it to the just city approach. Last I provide examples of planning in New York, London, and Amsterdam, evaluate them according to broad norms of justice, then list criteria by which to formulate and judge planning initiatives.