



Mapping flows, movements and cities networks at a European level *Françoise Bahoken, Marion Maisonobe*

The purpose of this special session is to discuss theoretical and methodological issues related to the geo visualization of relational data. Attention is focused on the networking of cities, at the level of EU28 Member States. All types of flows and movements (demographic, economic, ideal, financial, diplomatic, etc.) are concerned, as soon as they are relevant to the European perimeter. The aim is to examine the new possibilities of geo visualizing these exchanges by considering different aspects:

- numerical (modelling, construction of indicators, etc.) ;
- thematical (regional, intra-community or international flows, etc.) ;
- graphical (eg. cartographic patterns, geo graphical information, etc.).

Particular attention will be paid to propositions respecting the balance between semantics, semiology and aesthetics.

Beyond the theme, it is more generally a question of exploring new possibilities of geo-visual analysis, in connection with new mapping facilities linked to the geoweb (Joliveau, 2011), by diversifying the levels of observation and the methods used. Unique or mixed approaches, leading to the hybridization of traditional processes, to the multi-visualization of the same information according to different techniques, or to visual alternatives linked to new technologies, are particularly appreciated. Examples of questions that can be discussed:

- For demographic flows, the mapping of migrant flows or their migration is emblematic of the role played by representation modalities in the transmission of a political message.
- For trade flows, the focus on the dominant position of certain places leads to the elimination of part of the information related to the so-called weak signals.
- For ideal flow data, the cognitive distance is sometime more significant than the geographical one to explain and visualize scientific collaborations, knowledge transfers, etc.

Open, generalizable and freely reproducible approaches are encouraged.

A valorization of the communications is envisaged in the form of a collective book or a special issue of journal, to be discussed collectively.

Reference: Joliveau T., 2011, « Le géoweb, un nouveau défi pour les bases de données géographiques », L'Espace géographique, 40(2), p. 154-163.