

Digital Territories: Location Awareness and the Re-making of Political Space in Rio's Favelas*

Dr. Andrés Luque-Ayala is a Lecturer in the Department of
Geography, Durham University

This talk examines the digital production of territory through location awareness, and the various visibilities and invisibilities at play in the mobilization of ICT technologies towards bridging urban exclusion. It looks at the politics of spatial calculation involved in recent attempts to incorporate Rio de Janeiro's favelas within the city, mobilizing the digital mapping of 'previously unmapped' territories as a technique of socio-economic inclusion. In the context of Rio's favelas - the frontier of formally governed territories - digital mapping represents an emerging form of making territory through computational logics. Yet, in contrast with the disciplinary techniques of Rio's Pacifying Police Units, location awareness via digital mapping operates as a governmental technique that incorporates population into a broader economic territory, reinforcing a way of governing favelas through opening up them to further (digital and material) circulations. In the interface between smart, digital and urban worlds, political territory is re-made through economic incorporation.

* Joint paper developed with Flávia Maia, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

15:00 – 17:00, Wednesday 8th February, 2017

Room 2.31, Iontas Building, North Campus, Maynooth University

The Programmable City Seminar Series 2016/17

More information at <http://progcity.maynoothuniversity.ie>



European
Research
Council



This project is funded by
the European Union