



2.1 Reframing the “local” in alternative food geographies of Istanbul

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Given the post-pandemic socio-economic landscape and the grave concerns over food security and food sovereignty, the actors, structures, and relations surrounding the production, distribution, and consumption of food have been paid more attention. Among the prominent concerns, those related to the reduction of intermediaries and physical distance between the producers and consumers were particularly noteworthy. In this context, it should be noted that the phenomenon of short food supply chain is gradually expanding from the Global North to the low- and middle-income countries in the Global South.

The reconfiguration and shortening of food chains contributes to foster economic diversity and social resilience at local level while introducing or extending different forms of value capture. While actions, reactions and decisions of the diverse actors in urban foodscape are being shaped by socially embedded economic realities, they also simultaneously contribute to the formation of new ones (Migliore et al. 2013). “[R]ecovering a sense of morality within the food” opens up “oppositional sites to the mainstream food industry” (Sage, 2003). Therefore, localised food systems that re-socialise and/or re-spatialise food also contribute to the development of an “emancipatory food politics” (Moragues-Faus, 2017).

The presentation aims to discuss the recent revival and the importance of localised food supply initiatives in mega-cities or highly urbanised metropolitan areas while focusing on a pioneering example of producer’s/co-operative market in Istanbul. This marketplace that brings together consumer and producer initiatives seeking alternatives to conventional food production and distribution, which are driven by both economic and non-economic motives, will be discussed as a performative space for enacting social change and as a leverage for more-than-capitalist alternatives. To this end, the question of how the local can be (re)framed in this case and its changing meanings will be explored.

Scheduled in 1 session

* All times are based on Europe/London BST

Friday, September 1

🕒 11:10 - 12:50 BST 📍 ICL - Sir Alexander Fleming Building Room 120 (In-person only)



Food Geographies Research Group

In-person only session

SAF-120 - Critical geographies of typical food products (2)

##conf1165

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Andree Lessard, Network coordinator



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