

Approaches to island spatial planning: A special thematic section of *Island Studies Journal*, 14(2), November 2019

Islands face several developmental obstacles as well as serious environmental issues with relevant socioeconomic impacts such as climate change, environmental degradation, land use change, loss of biodiversity and proliferation of invasive alien species. These issues require attention from public policies based on the most reliable scientific information, the most advanced technologies and the most effective participatory approaches. Spatial planning at land, coastal, or marine levels constitutes a decision-making process aiming to sustainably and cost-effectively allocate resources and respective uses through space and time, in order to foster and achieve strategic socioeconomic and environmental policies and goals. Nevertheless, spatial planning on islands has poorly reflected the specific nature of islands as it has tended to implement standard (mainland-based) strategies and make generic recommendations that do not address the spatiotemporal complexity of island environments (islands and archipelagos). All these circumstances make spatial planning in islands especially challenging in scientific, technical and political terms.

Island Studies Journal (ISJ) is considering the publication of a special section to be included in its November 2019 issue (Vol. 14, No. 2), dedicated to the theme 'Approaches to island spatial planning'. Articles to appear in this special section are not restricted to any specific geographical range and shall highlight the influence of islandness in the targeted topics, in order to contribute to designing and implementing better, specific and cost-effective spatial planning policies on islands. Submitted manuscripts should describe original approaches within the overall theme of 'Approaches to island spatial planning', including but not restricted to:

- Land and/or coastal planning policies and tools at island and/or archipelagic scale;
- Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) in islands or archipelagos;
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in islands or archipelagos;
- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in islands or archipelagos;
- Participatory Spatial Planning in islands or archipelagos;
- Spatial Planning for Climate Change Adaptation in islands or archipelagos.

Island Studies Journal is a web-based, freely downloadable, open access, peer reviewed, electronic journal that publishes papers advancing and critiquing the study of issues affecting or involving islands. It is listed and abstracted in Scopus and Web of Science (Social Science Citations Index). Selected peer-reviewed papers will be published as a special thematic section in *Island Studies Journal*, Vol. 14, No. 2 in November 2019. (Note that accepted papers may also be published earlier ahead of print.) For further information, or if you are interested in submitting a paper, contact special thematic section editor Artur Gil (arturgil@gmail.com). Manuscripts should preferably be between 5,000-8,000 words (prepared in accordance with the ISJ house style: http://islandstudies.ca/guidelines_instructions.html). Submissions should reach Artur Gil by 31 October 2018 to be considered for this special thematic section (please use the title 'Special Section on Approaches to island spatial planning' as the e-mail subject).