


PROCESSES OF DE-RE-TERRITORIALIZATION AND MULTI-TERRITORIALITY OF VENEZUELAN IN THE NORTHWEST REGION OF THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO

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ABSTRACT

In the study of geography, territory mainly aims at understanding the power relations reproduced within a certain space. In post-modernity, it gains new attributes and perspectives, regularly readapting and fragmenting itself. Even in current times, multiterritoriality is reproduced from the context of globalization, leading by the migratory flows, thus allowing new (re)adaptations. It is in this context that the current work discusses new territorial processes referring to Venezuelans moving to other territories, which until then were not included in such processes, now representing new destinations, being (re)modified and obtaining unprecedented aspects, such as the Northwest Fluminense region, which due to the interiorization policy, was impacted by new migratory dynamics. With the objective of identifying the territorial developments related to the processes of displacement of Venezuelans, it is proposed to clarify the question of multiterritoriality in the globalized world, represented especially by the network-territories and the increase of diasporas. With a qualitative methodology that encompasses a bibliographic review on the proposed theme, it is considered relevant to highlight such unprecedented dynamics, discussing the impact of migratory movements in spaces far from the traditional axis of the capitals and large Brazilian urban centers, such as the small cities located in the interior of the state of Rio de Janeiro. Based on a qualitative methodology that encompasses a bibliographic review on the proposed theme, it is understood to be relevant to highlight these unprecedented dynamics, especially with the current complexity of political-legal and spatial devices, discussing or impacting two migratory movements in spaces far from the traditional one between the capitals and two large Brazilian urban centers, as well as the small municipalities located in the interior of the state of Rio de Janeiro.

Keywords: Multiterritoriality. Territory. Venezuelans.

INTRODUCTION

In geography, the territory is deterritorialized and reterritorialized synchronically and intrinsically, becoming frequent in modernity, with the (re)adaptation and new unfolding of

spaces. Still in contemporary times, it appears that reterritorialization is the main order of the territory, as it has a complex network (HAESBAERT, 2004; BRAGA, 2010). Thus, multi-territoriality is evident, seen as a new facet of territorial organization, presenting a spatial non-hierarchization.

These processes are noticed among those who migrate, as they exercise their de-re-territorialization: starting with deterritorialization, when leaving their home territory, leaving behind familiar symbols. Then, reterritorialization occurs, with the readaptation of a new space and the reconstruction of new territorial symbols and, finally, territorialization, constituting new appropriations.

Such an experience is observed among Venezuelans who are deterritorialized due to the difficulties faced by their country, and reterritorialized in new spaces such as Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Spain (UNHCR, 2018). In Brazil, due to its proximity to the border, many of them are concentrated in Roraima, intensifying conflicts with the population and the local political class, in addition to overloading the already outdated public services.

As a way to mitigate the impact, the interiorization policy is implemented, a political-administrative measure that coordinates the displacement of Venezuelans to different locations (XAVIER, 2021). Among these new territories, the Noroeste Fluminense stands out, a region separated from the large Brazilian urban centers and known for its weak migratory and socioeconomic dynamics with the rest of the state.

The proposal of the present work emerges based on the evidence of the presence of a small group of immigrants from Venezuela in the Rio de Janeiro municipality of Italva, verified in the work of conclusion of course in Degree in Geography by the Federal Fluminense Institute that analyzes the migration and the process of interiorization in the Northwest Fluminense region.

Thus, it is intended to identify and determine the territorial developments that are reproduced due to the transformations demanded by the new conjectures of the globalized world, assimilating them with the migratory dynamisms in new spaces considered as far away from the traditional poles of attraction and concentration of the immigrant population.

1. METHODOLOGY

As a methodological procedure, the qualitative methodology was chosen. Flick (2004) indicates that this type of approach in the social sciences contributes to the clarification of

singular social eventualities, with the proof of fundamental occurrences in a specific environment, giving preference to space-time attributes, considering expressions, capacities and subjective attributions in contexts specific. Therefore, it is appreciated the execution of a bibliographic review related to the subject of the research object, from the consultation of articles, books, magazines and other works.

2. RESULTS

Serious destabilizations that occur in certain regions are one of the biggest reasons why millions of people move, carrying out de-re-territorialization procedures. Haesbaert (2004) indicates that deterritorialization, linked to processes of (re)territorialization, need to be placed in situations of instabilities or territorial precariousness, especially in those that are impossible to organize and exercise control over their domains.

It is in this context that Venezuela finds itself, a nation that in recent years has been experiencing a profound political and socioeconomic conflict, being the main cause of the exodus of millions of people. It is estimated that, between 2015 and 2017, more than 1.6 million Venezuelans left their country of origin, especially towards neighboring countries such as Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile and Argentina (HUMANS RIGHTS WATCH, 2018). Such displacements are characterized as diasporas, as pointed out by De Sá (2017) when indicating that diaspora movements are closely linked to geographic dispersion.

In Brazilian territory, some of these Venezuelans relocate to different spaces due to interiorization, carrying out the de-re-territorialization, by establishing themselves in hitherto unknown places, readapting to the peculiarities, (re)building a new bond based on reterritorialization, and on the re-elaboration of new identifications with the territory.

Thus, after verifying the social reality of Venezuelans, initial identification difficulties are observed during reterritorialization, especially due to sociocultural and linguistic differences. A posteriori, it is verified that such adversities are gradually reduced with the appropriation of local symbolisms and readaptation based on integration with society.

Currently, migrations are the main representations of multiterritoriality, seen as the “possibility existing in globalization of being able to establish appropriation processes in distant points of space and involving different scales” (FUINI, 2017 p. 20). Faced with this, the reformulation or exclusion of borders multiplies, and the (re)construction of new territories, being a “post-modern” topic, of a complex and non-hierarchical reterritorialization.

Often, these spaces that were not previously impacted by these processes, are included in the migratory dynamics and territorial (re)adaptations, due to the advance of technical-informational globalization and the multiplication of network territories, gaining unprecedented functions and characteristics.

An example of this is the Northwest Fluminense region, which registers around 35 Venezuelan people between 2018 and 2019, in the municipalities of Itaperuna and Italva , ⁴thus incorporating itself into the arrangement of contemporary migratory flows.

3. DISCUSSION

It is necessary to bear in mind that the territory is not unalterable, immutable and fixed, as one of its greatest characteristics is precisely its ability to fragment, (re)adapt, (re)transform and multiply, carrying in itself the idea of disintegration and dynamism. With this, it is crucial to discard the common notion of wholeness, fixity and stability.

Enes and Bicalho (2014) observe that these processes are very common in contemporary times, requiring constant (re)arrangements and formats, with the dismemberment and regrouping of territories and their inherent symbols.

In post-modernity, represented by the technological advancement of communications and transport, the predominance of cyberspace and the compression of space-time, territorial transformations and fragmentations multiply, in which the territory is a consequence of the territorialization of means and rhythms (HAESBAERT, 2004).

The territory is understood as an association of appropriation or domain of a society over its space, aggregating the most diverse variations of mobility, constituting a territory-network. With its diffusion, the reticular method becomes dominant with its network flows, connecting some specific points in space, compressing their distances (HAESBAERT, 1999; 2006).

Added to the network-territory, the multi-territoriality is expanded, with the restructuring and new border delimitations. One of the greatest representations of multiterritoriality would be that of the diaspora, significant in contemporary times.

Haesbaert (2004) considers that diasporas represent the spatial movement of people belonging to a group with an integral cultural identity that are dispersed throughout the world,

⁴Data available at: < <https://www.nepo.unicamp.br/observatorio/bancointerativo/numeros-imigracao-internacional/sincre-sismigra/> >. Accessed on 03 Jan. 2023.

enabling heterogeneous encounters that arise previously from the consolidation of means of fast transport and the diffusion of instantaneous communication, allowing with which those who are on the move, request a new conceptualization of territory, the territory-network, as they cover one, or several, discontinuous territories, relatively flexible and connected in a network (HAESBERT; GONÇALVES, 2005).

However, Massey (2017) warns that in the current phase of globalization there is the ambiguous manipulation of contradictory geographic imaginaries, one of which is the existence of a false discourse of free mobility worldwide, based on a utopia of a world without borders.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Constant (re)configurations establish the organization of territories. Dismemberments, reforms and changes in delimitations are some of the current elements in the territorial factors that experience de-re-territorialization.

Such actions seem to intensify in post-modernity, so marked by reterritorialization and multiterritoriality, due to the discourse of border collapses and spatial compression with the progress of means of transport and communication.

Added to this, the increase in migratory movements pressures spaces to constantly (re)adjust, since mobility articulated in non-hierarchical networks imposes territorial reconstruction, inserting spaces that formerly did not reproduce such conditions.

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