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From training to uncertainty in the governance of uncertainty: the local face of PPRT area industrial port of Dunkerque

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Abstract: This research will take for object the process of consultation which is at the present time taking place, within the Local Committee of Information and Consultation (CLIC) of the industrialo-harbour zone of Dunkerque, as part of the elaboration of a Plan of Prevention for Technological Risks (PPRT). The project aims at analyzing the various manners for local actors to adapt themselves to the increasing institutionalization of participatory process by acquiring and by operating new professional skills. The "good participation" of the local actors in the process of consultation indeed supposes a training/apprenticeship in the regulation’s changes concerning the various stages of elaboration of the PPRT. It especially supposes, considering types and degrees of uncertainties implied by these plans, a training/apprenticeship of the technical characteristics linked to "studies of dangers". The research implies to question the two dimensions of professionalization’s process: How and to which extent can the local actors be (in)formed to develop the good practices related to the consultation operated into this plan?; Which forms and which instruments of governance can be can be mobilized during the consultation so that these actors can elaborate shared representations of this space? Led by a multidisciplinary team composed of political analysts, jurists, geographers and sociologists, the research will be based on several methodological tools. A participating observation will first be conducted within the meetings of the CLIC, as well as within other meetings concerning the PPRT. A report’s analysis of these meetings, of documents produced for the consultation, as well as the study of audiovisual sources and cartographic representations will then be realized. The third stage will consist in leading interviews with the local actors.