

This is not How to Plan

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ABSTRACT

This short article criticizes "Israel 2020", the master plan for Israel in 2020. First, I claim that "Israel 2020" offers a vision, not a full plan. I base this claim on the marginal attention paid by "Israel 2020"'s editors to the measures required for its implementation and the limited ability of the Israeli planning system to implement any plan. Second, and related to this, I claim that "Israel 2020" is highly oriented toward the future but ignores the need to deal with the present, as a plan should. Therefore, "Israel 2020" does not point at opportunities, ways of removing obstacles, or the ability to act in the immediate term. These criticisms, which are relevant to "Israel 2020", reflect the typical disconnection between planning and implementation tools in Israel, which tirelessly erodes agreed policy and blurs the rules, principles and planning goals. The article concludes with the general loss of trust in planning caused by this disconnection and points to the need for applicable planning.

Keywords: Israel 2020; Planning process; Planning law; Long-term planning; Comprehensive planning

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