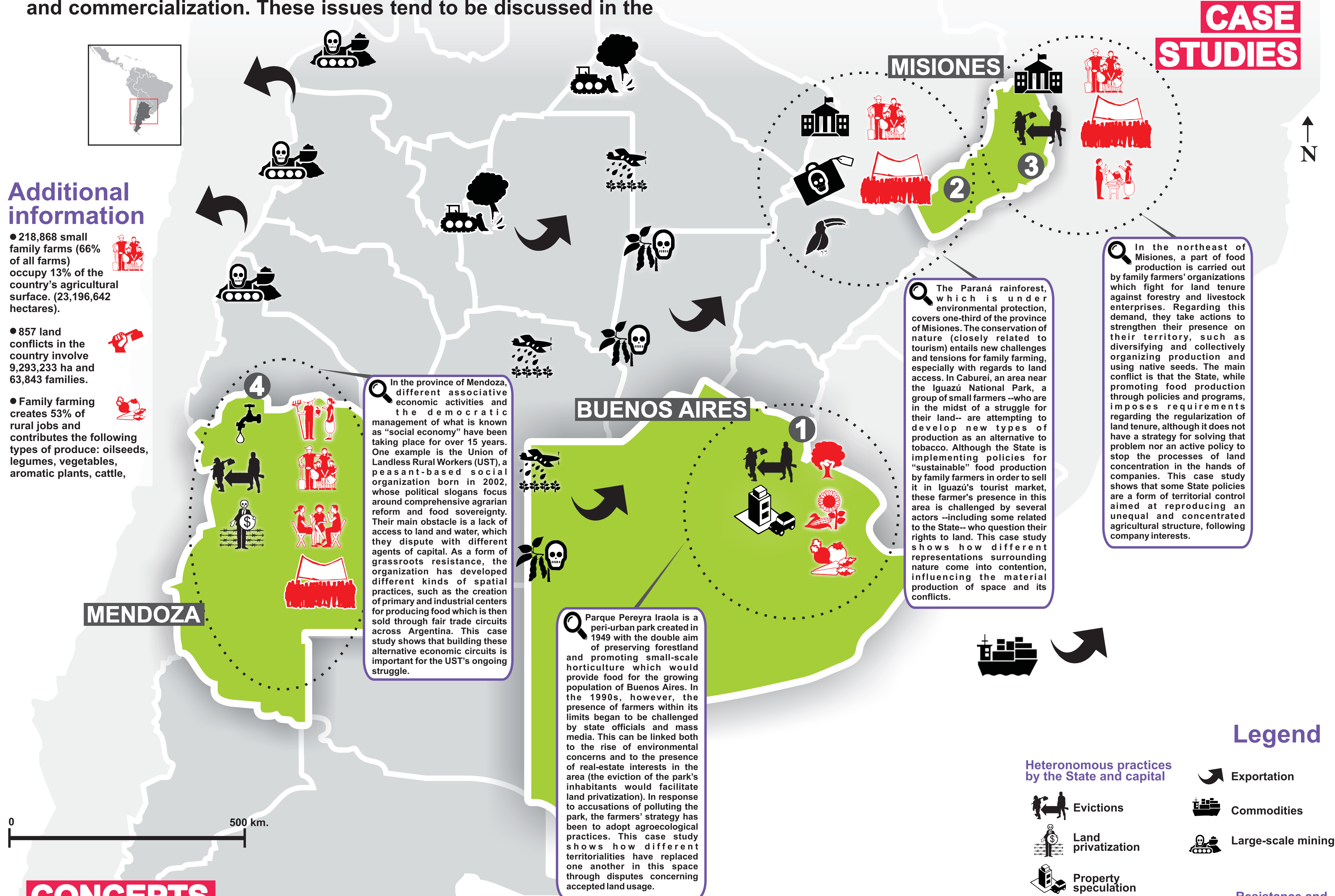


RURAL LAND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES FOR FAMILY FARMING AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO FOOD PRODUCTION IN ARGENTINA

Mariana Arzeno, Francisco Fernández Romero, Emanuel Jurado, Lucila Muñecas, Aymara Zanotti
Geografías Emergentes: Grupo de Estudios sobre Políticas, Conflictos y Alternativas socio-espaciales.
Instituto de Geografía, Universidad de Buenos Aires.

OUR PROJECT In the past decade, in Argentina, public policies have promoted family farming with the aim of contributing to local food provision and food sovereignty. However, these policies have been implemented in areas in which different forms of capital (related to agriculture, real estate and tourism) impose restrictions regarding both family farmers' resource usage and their alternative ways of production and commercialization. These issues tend to be discussed in the

context of land management. Our research goal is to analyze territorial processes which result from the interaction between public policies, resistance practices which resignify or challenge them, and predominant spatial representations, concerning family farming, food production and land management. Our analysis focuses on case studies in different Argentinean provinces.



CONCEPTS

1 Parque Pereyra Iraola (outskirts of Buenos Aires).



Territorialities (Raffestin)
Historically situated ways in which a group or an individual appropriates a portion of space, both materially (through concrete actions) and symbolically (through discourses, representations, etc.). Territorialities change throughout time; also, at any given moment, there can also be disputes between actors who seek to impose their own territoriality on the same place or area.

2 Misiones: conservation and family farming.



Spatial Representations
The material and symbolic dimensions of space are closely related: notions and representations regarding any given space influence their material construction. Public policies are based on points of view concerning territory, subjects and resources which must be unpacked in order to understand them more fully and to base discussion on critical terms.

3 Misiones: Territories and conflicts between family farmers' organizations and the State.



Territory (Sack)
Delimited spatial area on which individuals or groups try, through different mechanisms of power exercise, to influence, affect or control people and processes that take place in that space

4 Social Economy in Mendoza.



Spatial practices (Souza)
We define them as the social actions in which spatiality (spatial organization, territoriality and "sense of place") is a clear and prominent component of an organization's strategies, forms of expression and/or objectives

Legend

Heteronomous practices by the State and capital

- Evictions
- Land privatization
- Property speculation
- Conservationism
- Water disputes
- Conflicts with the State
- Conflicts with tourism

Other large-capital practices

- Soybean monoculture
- Fumigations
- Deforestation

- Exportation
- Commodities
- Large-scale mining

Resistance and alternative practices

- Family farming
- Fair trade
- Local farmers market
- Horticulture
- Associative labor
- Agroecology
- Afforestation
- Grassroots organization

Our research is based on a theoretical perspective which accounts for the contradictory and conflictive process of spatial production and the political-ideological character of land management: which is the desired order? what representations of space are enforced? what other "managements" arise from social organizations? These questions are key for understanding the disputes and strategies of different actors aiming to impose their projects in each place. Our case studies show that state policies tend to reaffirm a territorial (economic, political and environmental) order which creates pressure on family farming, and its capacity to

produce food in a sustained manner, by hindering both their access to land and the construction of alternative markets. Different social organizations, through everyday resistance, experiment with practices which tend to disrupt that order materially (developing alternative productions and ways of trading) and symbolically (building other ideas and representations around space and its possible management).

QUESTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES

LITERATURE: LEFEBVRE, Henry (2013). La producción del espacio. España: Capitán Swing. 1ra. ed. / RAFFESTIN, Claude (2012). "Space, territory, and territoriality", Environment and Planning D: Society and Space, 30(1). / SACK, R. (1986). Human territoriality: its theory and history. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. / SOUSA, M. Lopes de (2013). Os conceitos fundamentais da pesquisa sócio-espacial. Rio de Janeiro, Brasil: Bertrand, 1 ed. **ICONS:** Iconoclastas / **GEM.** **CONTACT:** <https://geografiasemergentes.wordpress.com/> / geografiasemergentes@gmail.com