

Peer Review

Review of: "Geography Adds Value to All Scholarship: Construing the Obvious in Geographical Space"

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I like the point being made in the article. I can connect to the anecdote, since geography seems to face these kinds of prejudice globally. In my view, this article should explicitly mention the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the role geography can play in this context. Since most of the goals are in some way or another related to spatial and thus geographical thinking, this would make it very clear that geography is more than just trivia. It helps solve global and local problems. Particularly, goal number 11, "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable," is of relevance in this context.

In this train of thought, I miss the mention of scale. In my view, this is another unique feature of geography. In the context of architecture, this could mean to "think global and act local." Think, e.g., of the possibility to replace concrete and cement with wooden materials or the possibilities to recycle old buildings or their parts. These local actions and place-based solutions support the protection of the global climate. The supply (chains) of wood could also be addressed as a regionally scaled strategy to support sustainable building. Geography is the only discipline to apply these concepts of scale to problem-solving. This allows for an integrated approach recognizing the interconnectedness of phenomena, as referred to in the article as spatial relations.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.