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Session:

Soundscapes (international/englisch) (Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp)

Titel:

Applicability of the soundscape approach in the legal context

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Abstract:

Environmental noise assessment and control is still exclusively based on laws, guidelines and regulations, which are referring only to (calculated) A-weighted sound pressure levels. Although, it is widely accepted that the simple measurement of sound pressure levels failed in describing adequately environmental noise annoyance, the noise policy is still driven by simple assumptions and level calculations. These simple indicators are well-established and deeply ingrained in noise policy. However, few applications of the soundscape concept in the context of the redesign of urban places show already the feasibility and potential of the soundscape approach. The paper will discuss opportunities and recent obstacles regarding the application of soundscape approach within the current (German) legal framework of noise policy and noise control.

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