



How the forests overwhelm the human great forces which shape the spatial patterns of the Anthropocentric landscapes

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The title of the conference suggests that we are living in an epoch in which humans have become a geophysical force outcompeting natural processes. I question whether this is true for all the possible scales of analysis, for all the biomes and the regions of the world. A very informative example comes from the great forces that shape the spatial patterns of many human-created landscapes, which, after the abandonment, disappear. With the transformation of these patterns, many other components of the ecosystem change. Here I present worldwide evidences on how the landscape patterns created by humans are changing in many hilly and mountainous regions following the recovering of forests. Important points of discussion and further research are: how fast this process of spontaneous transformation is and, specifically questioning the Anthropocentric name for our epoch, how long the human influence lasts?