



The Processes
and Theories of
the Smart City

Melissa Sessa

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What is the city, but the people?
—William Shakespeare, Coriolanus Act III Scene I

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 1	9
Smart City: Why Today?	
Economy and new forms of capitalism	13
Politics, governance and technocracy: three organisational paradigms	21
The city in a network society	30
CHAPTER 2.....	37
Theories About the Smart City: Axes, Share Capital and Labelling	
The theory of the six axes	40
Medium-sized cities as a basis for research	42
What is a suitable definition of a smart city?	45
Share capital as a driving force for smartness	49
Smart definitions: A detailed synopsis	51
A step forward: the human factor.....	56
Critique: the theory of smart labelling	58
Smart city: a combination of several concepts.....	60
The smart city divided between public and private interest	64
CHAPTER 3.....	69
A New Theory about the Smart City: Attempts at Holism	
Democracy as a key element for smart governance	72
Sustainability as a guiding element	82
Security, safety and privacy	91
CONCLUSION	99
BIBLIOGRAPHY	103

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This book describes the phenomenon of the smart city in all its facets through sociological lenses. What is a smart city? What social challenges is it addressing? What are its limits and what are its potentialities? The concept of the smart city is still somewhat unclear, although the smart city project is currently at the forefront of society. Through a precise analysis of the concept of "smart", the book provides a holistic definition of what constitutes a smart city. It will guide readers who want to analyse and describe the smart city, not only in the sociological field, but also in the technical-scientific field, and for those who want to explore its limits, its potentialities and its future developments.

Melissa Sessa is a PhD candidate at the Department of Political Sciences of the Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, and at the Sapienza School for Advanced Studies (SSAS). She also won a scholarship to conduct her research abroad at the London School of Economics and Political Science. With her dissertation, "The social dimension of the smart home", she won the prestigious "Vincenzo Dona" Prize. She is currently a member of the Board of the RN24 - Science and Technology Research Network of the European Sociological Association.

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