



CENTRALITY IN THE AGE OF DISPERSION

Book of Abstracts

Centrality in the Age of Dispersion

International Conference

Wrocław 25-27.09.2024

www.centrality-dispersion.pwr.edu.pl



Wrocław University
of Science and Technology



**DOLNY
ŚLĄSK**

PATRONAT HONOROWY MARSZAŁKA WOJEWÓDZTWA
DOLNOŚLĄSKIEGO PAWŁA GANCARZA



centrum
na przedmieściu



Honorary Patronage of the Mayor of Wrocław

Planning Practice
& Research



esri Polska
THE SCIENCE OF WHERE®



**GEOPORTAL
DOLNY ŚLĄSK**
geoportal.dolnyślask.pl



Komitet
Przestrzennego
Zagospodarowania Kraju
Polska Akademia Nauk



Poland



Manchester Urban Institute



ISOCARP
Knowledge for Better Cities

Table of contents

Jacek Pluta

Attractive places to live - Location decisions in medium-sized cities affected by shrinkage.....1

Anna Grochowska, Sławomir Czerwiński

Community in Action: Initiatives of Wrocław Neighbourhood Communities in Shaping Urban Space.....1

Magdalena Olszyna, Łukasz Damurski

Accessibility and functionality of the Local Activity Centres in Wrocław, Poland.....1

Jarosław Działek, Monika Murzyn-Kupisz

Concentration or dispersion? Location patterns of creatives in the Polish peripheries.....2

Henry Endemann

Creative District, Science Park, Start-Up Block: Branded Business Clusters as Drivers of Urban Concentration in China and The Netherlands.....3

Jan Zipser

The concept of reconstruction and development of the border settlement system (of Ukraine) in the face of future threats.....3

Szymon Dziedzic, Maciej Szarejko

Cities: from emergence to annihilation.....4

Constanze Zöllter, Stefanie Rößler, Robert Hecht, Lisanne Petry

Mobility transitions in large-scale housing estates through the 15-minute city concept?.....4

Gazmend Uka, Angelika Psenner

Unveiling the Dynamics: Exploring the Impacts of Concentration and Dispersion at the Local Level: An Analysis of Vushtrri, Mitrovica and Prishtina.....5

Maciej Pilny

Urban densification by housing development in spatial development plans. A case study of Wrocław's city centre.....6

Paweł Pach, Adrian Porada

Evolution of contemporary retail centers within the structure of Wrocław - towards new pattern?.....6

Jerzy Ładysz

Centrality and dispersion in land-use planning and territorial governance in cross-border functional areas.....7

Moti Kaplan

Concentration versus dispersion in the act of planning.....7

Robert Czajka, Maciej Szarejko

Walkability Beyond the Limits of Growth.....8

<i>Wawrzyniec Zipser, Maciej Kamiński, Magdalena Mlek-Galewska, Jan Zipser</i> Application of the original version of the decision-simulation model ORION in spatial planning practice.....	9
<i>Maciej Szarejko, Kacper Kaczmarek</i> Special Pareto hypothesis.....	9
<i>Jowita Aleksandra Tabak</i> Alternative design for post-growth cities - polycentric model of Turin	10
<i>Marianne Cusato</i> Ukrainian Cities Case Study: Seeking Identity, Mitigating Trauma, and Activating the Economy Through the Built Environment.....	11
<i>Yuriy Kryvoruchko, Yaryna Voronych</i> Centrality And Dispersion: Transformations in the context of war.....	11
<i>Yegor Vlasenko</i> Ukrainian core cities: navigating between decentralisation, metropolisation, and war-time challenges.....	12
<i>Katarzyna Piskorek, Magdalena Belof, Agnieszka Szumilas</i> Building the cooperative East-West networks in times of war	13
<i>Konrad Lewacki</i> Transforming Urban Landscapes: Housing Development and the Potential of Obsolete Areas in Wrocław (2014-2024).....	13
<i>Janusz Ziobrowski</i> Genius loci in the Age of Information. A study into centrality on the example of Kraków's New City Center 50 years after its initial proposal	14
<i>Maria Hełdak</i> The impact of the technical condition of downtown housing development on the standard of living of older adults	14
<i>Branislav Antonić, Aleksandar Grujičić</i> Urban Centrality, Identity and Design: A New Project for the Square of Holy Trinity in Sombor, Serbia	15
<i>Xu Cong, Tsoyu Cavin Lin</i> The Impact of Hukou System Reform: A Natural Experiment in China's First-Tier Cities.....	16
<i>Marta Gross, Ada Wolny-Kucińska, Agnieszka Dawidowicz; Małgorzata Dudzińska</i> "Bottlenecks" - when infrastructure fails to keep pace with urban development.....	16
<i>Maciej Piekarski</i> Railway areas – transformation from the urban periphery into the city's spine - a concept for Rzeszów	17
<i>Michał Małysz, Mikołaj Grosel</i> The role of transport nodes in Wrocław in challenging urban congestion - centre vs outskirts...	18

<i>Maciej Skulimowski</i> Sustainable mobility as a countermeasure to dispersion	18
<i>Anastasiia Zhokhova, Magdalena Belof</i> Making Kyiv a cycle friendly city	19
<i>Piotr Węgrzynowicz, Dorota Jopek</i> Local matters – in search of lost time	19
<i>Aleksandar Grujičić, Branislav Antić</i> Serbian Cities after the Population Census 2022 The Sprawl of Urban Shrinkage from Borderland to Inner Peripheries.....	20
<i>Katarzyna Kuzara, Robert Szmytkie, Agnieszka Lisowska-Kierepka</i> Dynamics and Spatial Differentiation of Population Changes in Suburban Areas in the Post-Socialist Period. A Case Study of Wrocław (Poland)	21
<i>Ashu Chaudhary, Bhanu Khanna, Manjusha Bharti</i> Delhi's Case of urban renewal through the master planning process	21
<i>Justyna Kleszcz</i> Urban self-sufficiency as an island solution and its impact on the transformation of urban structures. The European versus the American model.....	22
<i>Michelle Mbazuigwe</i> The structure of open public space of the megacity in the Global South. Example of Lagos, Nigeria	22
<i>Adrian Porada</i> From large housing estate to multifunctional neighborhood: changes of built environment and functionality of postwar housing estates in post-socialist cities.....	23
<i>Siqi Miao, Xiudi Tang</i> Drone delivery system, drone delivery station distribution, urban nodes, urban development strategy, service distribution	24
<i>Henry Endemann</i> Strategic Spatial Scenarios – Better Decisions for Megaprojects and Megaregions.....	24
<i>Ewa Tokarska-Gołębiewska, Maciej Szarejko</i> From Schelling' Model to Territorial Conflict Resilience and Deescalation Techniques Urban Planning as a Peace-making Tool.....	25
<i>Anna Zadoroźna</i> Rhizome theory in the study of the dynamics of modern cities in the age of dispersion	26
<i>Moti Kaplan</i> Evolution of Planning Policy in Israel: From Dispersion to Concentration and Back	26
<i>Tymon Wolender</i> The River Sensitive City. A sensible gaze to foster river-centered development.....	27

<i>Marek Gachowski, Marcin Budziński, Agnieszka Raczek, Agnieszka Szostak, Ewa Palarczyk</i> Directions of the reconstruction of the city structure based on the model of a consistent network of interpenetrating open and green urban public spaces in the realities of the GZM Metropolis (Upper Silesia/Dabrowa Basin Metropolis- South Poland) in the context of sustainable development.....	28
<i>Mihail Sandu-Dumitriu</i> Restitution, land fragmentation, and spatial planning. What went wrong? A case study in Romania.....	28
<i>John Adekunle Adesina, Xiaolan Tang; Nnezi Uduma-Olugu</i> Sustainable Urban Design and Green Infrastructure for City Redevelopment and Metropolitan Revitalization- Lagos Mainland.....	29
<i>Mahima Dagar</i> Unraveling Delhi's Urban Village Paradox: Navigating Planning Loopholes for Sustainable Development.....	30
<i>Albeniz Tuğçe Ezme Gurlek</i> Effects of Spatial Planning on Social Structure: Kırşehir Bağbaşı District (Türkiye)	31

Jacek Pluta

University of Wrocław

Attractive places to live - Location decisions in medium-sized cities affected by shrinkage

Key words: *urban policies; local communities, social activism*

The subject of the talk will be to present the elements of an urban policy aimed at building strong local communities. The main tool of this policy is the creation of a Local Activity Centre, in which a non-governmental organisation conducts activating activities for the benefit of the local community and by building partnerships with local stakeholders. The practical part will discuss the practical effects of implementing a local policy for strengthening the local community based on the development of a network of local activity centres in Wrocław.



Anna Grochowska, Sławomir Czerwiński

University of Wrocław

Community in Action: Initiatives of Wrocław Neighbourhood Communities in Shaping Urban Space

Key words: *neighbourhood community, social participation, urban planning*

The importance of grassroots community and local initiatives that involve residents in shaping their living space will be discussed. It is the settlement community that knows its needs best and can indicate what changes are needed. It will be emphasized that effective neighborhood management requires cooperation between local authorities, public institutions and residents. Transparent procedures and mechanisms are needed to enable public participation and ensure equitable solutions. The role of neighborhood councils, whose involvement in all stages of planning, design and management of settlement space is crucial, will be discussed. The need for universities, research institutions and NGOs to engage in the public participation process will be identified. By working with local communities, universities can serve as centers for the exchange of ideas and solutions to improve the quality of life of residents.



Magdalena Olszyna, Łukasz Damurski

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Accessibility and functionality of the Local Activity Centres in Wrocław, Poland

Key words: *accessibility, functionality, Local Activity Centers*

The proposed study is an attempt to examine the availability and functionality of Local Activity Centers (LAC) - amenities that have been developed in Wrocław (Poland) for several years. Based on the literature review, the origins and history of institutions integrating local communities are investigated. Authors' definitions of accessibility and functionality are developed and adopted to define the distribution, structure and range of services offered by LAC. The location on the city map and the basic features of 21 centers are presented, as well as spatial

relations to facilities such as greenery, residential areas and public transport. In addition, 6 centers are selected and examined in detail, using interviews with the LAC officials, the frequency of the activities proposed and their impact on the local community. The analyses led to a list of conclusions, including the characteristics of the Local Activity Centres, their role in the neighbourhoods and networking potential. As a result, the paper determines the optimal spatial arrangement of individual centers in the network and the desired range of services they should offer.



Jarosław Działek, Monika Murzyn-Kupisz

Jagiellonian University

Concentration or dispersion? Location patterns of creatives in the Polish peripheries

Key words: *artists; creative professionals; peripheries; Poland*

Artists and creative professionals tend to be overrepresented in large urban centres as they are believed to benefit from dense networks of knowledge exchange and cooperation with their peers and opportunities for collaboration with numerous artistic institutions and creative companies (Kelly, O'Hagan 2007; Markusen 2014; Rius-Ulldemolins 2014; Oberlin, Gieryn 2015; Wojnar 2016; Debroux 2017; Murzyn-Kupisz, Działek 2017; Działek 2021). Still, there are also individuals who prefer to live and create in peripheral areas, even though the distance from artistic and creative clusters could pose significant challenges for them (Działek, Murzyn-Kupisz 2014; Grant et al. 2014; Hautala 2015; Costa, Lynch 2021; Silva et al. 2023). Peripheries can be attractive, offering lower living costs and tranquillity conducive to creative work, potentially serving as a source of inspiration and creative identity, and providing embeddedness in local social networks (Działek, Murzyn-Kupisz 2014, 2023). Peripheral locations however necessitate increased mobility to maintain contacts with art worlds and creative centres, which could only be partially replaced by digital communications (Bennett 2010; Grant et al. 2014; Hautala, Jauhiainen 2019; Działek, Murzyn-Kupisz 2023). The above opportunities and challenges offered to creatives in peripheral areas have become especially visible during the Covid-19 pandemic prompting questions about its longer term impact on location patterns and clusters of creatives. The aim of our study is therefore to determine the location patterns of artistic and creative individuals in Poland at the beginning of the 21st century using data about their place of residence from the official 2001 and 2021 censuses. We seek to identify trends in their concentration or dispersion throughout these two decades and whether they depend on the type of artistic or creative activity. Specifically, we intend to identify creative hotspots where the number of these individuals in peripheral regions has significantly increased or decreased..



Henry Endemann

Buck Consultants International, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Creative District, Science Park, Start-Up Block: Branded Business Clusters as Drivers of Urban Concentration in China and The Netherlands

Key words: business clusters; urban concentration; China; The Netherlands; innovation

Contemporary urbanization is often driven by large-scale, highly concentrated development projects. The bigger and more complex those projects get, the more their connected stakeholders are dependent on their success. To increase their visibility and position them as privileged points of urban concentration, a typical step in the development process is to brand projects as a specific district, quarter, campus, block, or similar spatial delineation. This is particularly common for business clusters (e.g., industrial areas, office parks). While the general forces of urban concentration are widely understood, the link between the branding of projects and the shape and function of their subsequent development receives comparatively little attention in academic research. Therefore, this paper takes an exploratory approach to better understand the dynamics of branding large-scale urban development projects and the relationship between branding and urban morphology. The paper uses a quick-scan of 20 cases in the Netherlands and in the Guangdong Province (China) to build an inventory of branded business clusters and understand how they are expressed and promoted in those two countries. The quick-scan leads to a categorization with two factors: sectors (e.g., tech, creative, food) and spatial units (e.g., block, district, campus). This categorization allows a link between brands and spatial features – a district has higher functional diversity, a campus has lower physical density, a creative cluster has a smaller grain size. Furthermore, the paper reveals unexpected commonalities between China and The Netherlands: while the Chinese cases are obviously larger in size (area, heights, jobs), the dynamics of using branding for different degrees of urban concentration are very similar. Understanding these dynamics and their nuances around the world is an essential element to better understand wider debates on urban centrality.



Jan Zipser

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

The concept of reconstruction and development of the border settlement system (of Ukraine) in the face of future threats

Key words: triangular-catenary structure; dispersion limitation; spatial additivity; neighborhood of a hostile state; post-war climate-friendly development

Prudent development in the neighborhood of a hostile state (including the threat of direct military actions) requires a special approach to the potential risk. Some of the most important precautions are the protection of civilians (primarily in the sense of a quick evacuation), delay in hostile takeover of territory and economics of implementation. A model settlement solution for this type of requirements may be a triangular-catenary structure. This particular model, however, primarily ensures full compliance with the requirements "in peacetime", including: dispersion limitation, spatial additivity - also in relation to the existing settlement tissue, and spatial hygiene of the epidemic threat. Together with (or above all) the geometrically achieved

reduction in energy demand and the inclusiveness of green infrastructure, it provides ease of transition from less climate-conscious spatial systems to future, more reliable climate-friendly development.



Szymon Dzedzic, Maciej Szarejko

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Cities: from emergence to annihilation

Key words: *Agent-Based Model (ABM); Ant Colony Optimization (ACO); Diagnostic tool; Predictive model*

The prevailing sentiments in today's world, revolving around the escalating issue of global warming, can lead us to take actions that are too hasty, too rash, and too ruthless. While we can debate the greater or lesser evil, replacing one problem with another only leads to a spiral of misfortunes. We find ourselves at the peak of this spiral when we begin to discuss the shutdown of industries in cities dependent on them. Although the idea underlying the ecological revolution is sound, its consequences may overshadow all its added value. Resource-based cities, recklessly deprived of their original foundation, may not withstand the test and over time may dwindle or even perish entirely. However, history shows us that not every city whose resources have been depleted falls into decline. It is the accumulation of central functions that allows a city to withstand crises and introduce new resources, not necessarily material ones, to replace the old ones. We use the ant colony optimization algorithm, to simulate the life cycle of a city from creation (finding food) through flourishing (building a connection between the "city" and the main centre) to dispersal (depletion of the resource, loss of connection) or immunization (creation of a new anthill). With the use of this method, we can simulate various scenarios from the past and try to predict the future decline or growth of cities.



Constanze Zöllter, Stefanie Rößler, Robert Hecht, Lisanne Petry

Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development

Mobility transitions in large-scale housing estates through the 15-minute city concept?

Key words: *sustainable mobility; 15-minute city; large housing estates; co-creation; neighbourhood*

The idea of the 15-minute city emerged as a response to the dysfunctional urban patterns, environmental and social burdens following common mobility concepts and emphasises compactness and proximity in a city. The idea of offering residents of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities access to their daily needs within a 15-minute walk or bike ride, became essential again during the Corona pandemic. This concept supports better health and quality of life, a more environmentally sustainable city, a more equitable and inclusive city and can boost the local economy (Moreno 2021, Moreno et al. 2021). Considering the structural and socio-economic diversity of urban neighbourhoods, there are many open questions as to how the concept of the 15-minute city can be applied in different urban contexts. From a historical perspective, large-

scale housing estates offer good preconditions, as they were planned to be compact neighbourhoods, providing all necessary amenities nearby. In the recent decades these estates followed very different trajectories across Europe. Changing ownership schemes, changing needs and perceptions, diversifying population and growing socio-economic disparities, as well as different levels of state interventions lead to very different starting points and particular challenges for applying the 15-minute city concept. Despite being a very common urban neighbourhood type in many European cities, it has been neglected in research so far. The presentation provides insights into a European research project, which is focusing on the nexus of urban space, transport options, and people's needs and capacities as key dimensions for sustainable mobility transitions in large-scale housing estates. Based on analysis of the spatial situation and users perspectives, the project aims to co-create locally adapted and accepted spatial strategies and interventions for just and sustainable mobility.



Gazmend Uka, Angelika Psenner

Vienna University of Technology

Unveiling the Dynamics: Exploring the Impacts of Concentration and Dispersion at the Local Level: An Analysis of Vushtrri, Mitrovica and Prishtina

Key words: *Concentration; Dispersion; Neighborhood; Sustainable Development; Kosovo*

Why is concentration not enough, and why is dispersion not the right solution for sustainable urban development at the local level? These are the questions that we are going to address by analyzing the three cities of Vushtrri, Mitrovica, and Pristina, as well as their practices in concentration and dispersion. Every new development, whether re/densification by concentration or dedensification by dispersion, is not always a success story. The neighborhood and its residents will be the first to feel the impact of this development. With the world's growing urbanization, the dominant pattern is still for cities to expand rather than concentrate. Between 1990 and 2014, cities experienced an average doubling of their geographical areas, a phenomenon that planners could not predict or adequately prepare for (McFarlane, 2020), particularly when the city is simultaneously concentrating and dispersing. Our research raises important concerns about uncontrolled urban growth's effects on the local level by offering a fresh perspective on the problem at hand. Urban plans should guide all new construction, but in transitional countries, this is not always the case. The ongoing process of legalizing illegal construction, migration, and unplanned densification or outdated plans still in power is leading to urban growth that we cannot describe as sustainable, as cities are losing, among other essential features, important green, public, and semi-public spaces and agriculture land; there is a lack of investment in green infrastructure; and the forecasts of flooding are neglected by uncontrolled densification of urban areas and urban sprawl. This affects all residents, but especially children and elderly people, who are usually exposed to these developments without adequate representation of their interests or opportunities to have a say. The purpose of the presented paper is to reveal the dynamics of concentration and dispersion at the local level in Kosovo's planning and building practices, as well as to provide suggestions to alleviate these issues and promote sustainable urban neighborhoods.



Maciej Pilny

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Urban densification by housing development in spatial development plans. A case study of Wrocław's city centre

Key words: *densification, urban planning, housing*

The background to the research is the increasing activity of developers in the centres of Polish cities observed in recent years. The city of Wrocław was chosen as one of the fastest-developing cities in Poland. According to the studies, between 2010 and 2021, over 60,000 residential units were completed in the downtown area of Wrocław. Initial observations of the new urban tissue indicate an increasing spatial chaos due to new investments, however, the analysis of planning documents has shown that the vast majority of the analysed investments were carried out based on local spatial development plans. This proves that the process of densifying the city centre of Wrocław was much more planned than spontaneous. The research included the analysis of 69 local spatial development plans in terms of the urban density indicators contained within them. The analysed documents were divided into four categories based on the approach to densification: conservative, infilling, incorporative, and transformative. It was noticed that densification in the city centre of Wrocław mainly takes place in post-industrial areas and within the framework of complementing existing building complexes. A particular role in this second group is played by areas originally designated for service functions in residential estates designed in the second half of the 20th century.



Paweł Pach, Adrian Porada

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Evolution of contemporary retail centers within the structure of Wrocław - towards new pattern?

Key words: *retail centers; multifunctionality; service structure; Wrocław*

In the face of dynamic socio-economic changes and global trends, the retail sector, both worldwide and in Poland, is undergoing significant transformations. One of the key elements driving these changes are shopping centers and retail parks, which not only serve as places for retail transactions but increasingly evolve into socio-cultural and entertainment hubs, or in the case of smaller facilities, function as local service and retail centers. To meet those challenges and remain competitive, retail centers are adopting diverse strategies aimed at modernization, adaptation to evolving consumer needs as well as to changing function of urban areas. In recent years, they also diversify functionality, with their structure gradually aligning with the mixed-use development paradigm. This study focuses on analyzing trends and transformations within contemporary retail centers in the urban structure of Wrocław – serving as an exemplar of one of Poland's largest cities, where these transformations assume the most significant and noticeable scale. Through a temporal and evolutionary perspective, the study aims to identify the primary directions and dynamics of these changes, emphasizing transformations occurring in functionality, scope of offered services, location within the city structure, typology, and generations of shopping centers. The results of the analysis shed light on the adaptability of

shopping centers to evolving market and consumer demands, underscore their dynamic nature, and highlight their role in reshaping the city's retail landscape. The spatial aspect of the study allows to determine the influence of the transformation processes on the change of local service centers structure. The insights derived from the research may prove valuable for urban planners, policymakers, developers, and all stakeholders interested in understanding the intricate processes shaping the city's commercial landscape.



Jerzy Ładysz

Wroclaw University of Science and Technology

Centrality and dispersion in land-use planning and territorial governance in cross-border functional areas

Key words: *centrality; dispersion; land-use planning; territorial governance; cross-border functional area*

Changes in settlement structures become particularly important in cross-border functional areas. Traditionally, these areas are subject of particular interest of regional policy, land-use planning and the European Union cohesion policy. Often, state borders act as barriers to functional connections between border regions. Natural concentration mechanisms do not operate here as they do in internal regions. Near-border settlement structures are undermined by specific for border regions concentration and dispersion processes. As a response of public policy for this challenge, the land-use planning and territorial governance in trans-border regions is constantly evolving. The European Union is developing and implementing new, increasingly advanced forms and instruments of land-use planning and territorial governance in cross-border functional areas. Due to assigning them a high rank, at the stage of legislative work on the package of regulations for the European Union's cohesion policy for 2021-2027, for several years local governments have been taking initiatives to create such areas on the Polish borders. The aim of the research is: 1/ to evaluate the first Polish experience in creating cross-border functional areas, 2/ identify existing problems with centrality and dispersion processes in border regions, 3/ try to find answer how does land-use planning and territorial governance in cross-border functional areas could respond to these complex problems?



Moti Kaplan

Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Concentration versus dispersion in the act of planning

Key words: *The Planning and Construction Law, National Planning, Planning language.*

Under the title Concentration versus Dispersion, it is also possible to look at the planning system itself - scattered plans on different subjects, versus a single, centralized plan. In Israel, there have been over a hundred outline plans at a national level, which has caused great turmoil among planners and decision-makers. Considering this, the government has decided to consolidate all the programs into one centralized program which was also accepted and approved in 2020. It is about looking at the planning system from a different angle; Centralized or Dispersed. Before

structuring one National Outline Plan, some voices directed the plan differently. This included the dissatisfaction from government officials, parliament committees and entrepreneurs' representatives who expressed concern regarding the slow-paced and inexperienced planning thus far. The research question is: what are the background, circumstances, and especially the motives that caused the fundamental change in the planning system in Israel? In this framework, we seek to isolate the various motives and interests of the factors that pushed for the preparation of a single National Plan, each party, and their different motives (starting from the desire to improve the planning system, to intentions to reduce their status and power). During the research, we will examine whether, how, and in what way the various parties achieved their goals.



Robert Czajka, Maciej Szarejko

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Walkability Beyond the Limits of Growth

Key words: *Growth measures; Knowledge-based economy; Creativity value; Mental health; Walkability*

The future economy, driven by intangible assets and information, requires ingenuity and competitiveness comparable to both human enterprises and artificial intelligence. Central to this demand is the growing recognition of creativity as a vital economic resource. The psychophysical well-being of individuals, crucial for fostering creativity, relies on access to relaxation and recovery spaces after periods of mental exertion and chronic stress. Consequently, traditional assets of the industrial era are declining in relevance. In this evolving landscape, walkability within urban environments emerges as a critical factor. Cities like Amsterdam or Copenhagen excel due to their advanced urban infrastructure and exceptional quality of life, largely due to prioritizing walkability. Expatriates flock to cities offering superior amenities and recreational opportunities, leading to the concentration of top-tier talent. Conversely, cities burdened by industrial legacies suffer from brain drain in their information and creative sectors. This trend is evident in cities like Karachi or Brasília. Inadequate urban planning exacerbates the divide between thriving hubs of information and creativity and neglected regions, worsening economic disparities. The concept of a 15-minute city, where essential services and recreational facilities are within walking distance, promotes a healthier lifestyle and nurtures sustained mental well-being. Creating such environments is crucial for nurturing innovation hubs, where professionals from creative industries, the IT sector, and cutting-edge technologies converge. Metropolises with comprehensive service infrastructures or in traditional post-industrial cities, lay the foundation for long-term technological advancement. Walkability, providing the opportunity to relax after mental work, can attract highly qualified employees and, consequently, create local innovation clusters, which can overcome contemporary barriers to economic development.



Wawrzyniec Zipser, Maciej Kamiński, Magdalena Mlek-Galewska, Jan Zipser

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Application of the original version of the decision-simulation model ORION in spatial planning practice

Key words: *ORION model; paradigm of spatial decision, decision making support*

The ORION model (Optative Repartition In Opportunity Network) was used in many analytical and decision-making cases covering various ranges and spatial scales. The opportunity to use and test the original version of the algorithm made it possible to check its adequacy to today's challenges and contributed to its development in the aspect of threats and changes that increasingly affect urbanization processes. Using the model to analyze the condition and potential of a relatively small commune near Wrocław makes it possible to track the operation of the model and gradually add to the conditions of its operation a larger number of factors responsible for spatial processes in the suburban zone of a large city. The task the team undertook was not at all easy. Firstly, the Orion model was programmed in Algol, and although it was first used in the 1970s, numerous versions of it were constructed over the years for specific orders and were generally characterized by the lack of an abstract layer explaining its operation on a technical meso-scale. This scale is required by today's programming languages and techniques (e.g. classes), making it easier to maintain, develop, and provide a generally transparent means of illustrating the principles of operation. Rewriting the model into modern programming languages is therefore not an automatic process. Our work was to thoroughly understand and transform both the code and the model concept into a modern paradigm, reproducing or even creating missing concepts. This process highlighted key aspects of the model that were blurred in the original version and lost among more routine procedures and functions. This reinterpretation not only restored the algorithm's usefulness in the context of contemporary research requirements, but also opened it to changes resulting from understanding complex relationships in the modern world. Thanks to the renewal of its nature, compared to the time when the original was created, the model can still be of key importance in spatial planning of areas. Preliminary tests and modeling variants confirmed that the renewed model predicts relationships and dependencies as expected, which highlights the value of our approach in both theoretical and practical contexts.



Maciej Szarejko, Kacper Kaczmarek

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Special Pareto hypothesis

Key words: *concentration-diffusion modelling; settlement systems network, concentration process limitations;*

During simulations with diffusion-centering models that spontaneously tend to concentrate, often even to a single point, there comes a moment of excessive concentration, at which the usefulness of the model decreases. By adopting the Pareto principle as a method of limiting concentration (80% of objects concentrated in 20% of locations), it is possible to obtain a concentration limit that surprisingly clearly reflects the distribution of historical settlement

systems. By adopting different selectivity coefficients that corresponded to specific periods of civilization development and adapting the use of the Pareto principle, the such models produce distributions of the settlement model that show clear convergence with historical distributions from a given historical period. Modern times are characterized by global supply chains that have changed the traditional model of concentration. Technology and globalization have transformed the spatial settlement network and created new patterns of concentration. A thesis is put forward that the Pareto phenomenon also occurs in the real world in spontaneous self-organizing processes of the distribution of centers of settlement systems and may refer to both historical and contemporary concentration processes. The presentation presents the observed effects of applying the Pareto principle, but clear confirmation of this thesis requires further studies and research.



Jowita Aleksandra Tabak

Polytechnic University of Turin

Alternative design for post-growth cities - polycentric model of Turin

Key words: *city archipelago; strategy of the void; voids; post-growth; polycentric model; spatial design*

The COVID-19 pandemic, compounded by environmental and economic challenges, has highlighted critical issues in cities worldwide. Notably, there has been an increased utilization of public urban spaces, especially natural ones. In Turin, as in other post-growth cities, the necessity for a new design approach to development within the post-pandemic conditions has become evident. The prevalence of abandoned and underutilized areas underscores the ongoing urban transition, prompting further investigation and presenting an opportunity for city redesign. The contribution presents initial reflections on the urban structure of Turin within a broader project investigating the role of urban voids. Following research by FULL – Future Urban Legacy Lab, Politecnico di Torino, under the scientific management of Elena Vigliocco, "Next-generation urban parks", the project begins with studies of Turin's urban green and blue network. It continues with analyses inspired by O.M. Ungers and R. Koolhaas' design for Berlin, extracting nodes of the city – islands. The masterplan for Berlin from 1977 proposed the concept centered on urban islands, suggesting a potential reversal of urbanization trends to achieve a balanced relationship between built and natural environments. Although never realized, this concept, especially relevant today in the age of urban sprawl and dispersion, can serve as an inspiration for alternative approaches to the development of post-growth cities. Building upon these projects and conceptualizing voids as integral components of the city's fabric, the aim is to foster a reevaluation of the notion of growth and cultivate synergies between urban life and nature. The proposed polycentric approach does not undermine the importance of addressing climate challenges. Instead, it aligns with sustainable urban strategies by advocating for reduced travel distances, which can lead to lower emissions, and by preserving open areas that support biodiversity. This balanced approach moves beyond traditional dichotomies such as built-unbuilt, solid-void, and center-periphery, and spurred by the heightened desire for nature catalyzed by the pandemic, rethinks and redefines the architectonic principles in the design of cities. In the age of dispersion, where urban sprawl and decentralization challenge conventional notions of centrality, the study proposes a paradigm shift towards a more inclusive and

interconnected urban fabric. By focusing on the exploration of voids within the city, the research advocates for polycentric development in Turin as a prototype for the alternative design of post-growth cities, addressing both environmental concerns and the evolving needs of urban living.



Marianne Cusato

University of Notre Dame. School of Architecture

Ukrainian Cities Case Study: Seeking Identity, Mitigating Trauma, and Activating the Economy Through the Built Environment

Key words:

As Ukrainian citizens struggle to cope with conflict-related trauma and a war-time economy, decisions are being made that will guide the future development patterns of the nation. One of the greatest threats to this post-war reconstruction will be unregulated and unproductive growth, spurred on by international investment, which imposes an auto-dependent, single-use, slab-sprawl development model. This unproductive growth, based on the sprawl model of development, isolates the vulnerable and compounds the mental health crisis. It imposes expensive infrastructure that cities will not be able to afford over time, compounds the climate crisis and ignores the rich cultural and regionally unique character of Ukrainian cities. The future of Ukraine depends on developing communities that provide a hopeful tomorrow for residents. Achieving this future requires drawing on the cultural heritage of the pre-1939 historic city centers, whose unique characters of place lend significant meaning to the lives of residents while also representing an irreplaceable part of Ukrainian national identity the country is fighting to preserve. This talk will present work developed by an international team for Zolochiv, Lviv Oblast that explores strategies for the built environment designed to help mitigate trauma and encourage sustainable economic growth over time by providing a rich pathway to greater post-war capacities for rebuilding of Ukrainian lives, identity, and culture.



Yuriy Kryvoruchko, Yaryna Voronych

Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University, Lviv Polytechnic National University

Centrality And Dispersion: Transformations in the context of war

Key words:

The critical question of how to proceed with spatial management and urban decision-making in a contemporary urban environment is largely a question of the legal framework shaping the possibilities and requirements for action. This question significantly relates to the current Polish reality, where this framework, despite constant modifications, still does not guarantee satisfactory spatial results. Among many problems one concerns a strong need to strengthen the instruments of operational urban planning, which play a key role in the actual shaping of local space. Especially as these instruments have an important tradition in the Polish law of the interwar period. After 95 years since the enactment of the Ordinance on building code and the development of settlements of 1928, the study attempts to compare the instruments of operational urban planning established in this act with the solutions in place today and to

identify the basic differences between them. The study indicates the significant change in the way of thinking about the shaping of local space over the past years and its reflection in the necessary system solutions. Thus the work is a voice in the discussion on the directions of reforming the spatial planning system in Poland, while indicating the need to return to the forgotten solutions of 1928.



Yegor Vlasenko

LAB-U Laboratory of Urbanism, Lausanne, Switzerland

Ukrainian core cities: navigating between decentralisation, metropolisation, and war-time challenges

Key words: *territorial regulations, decentralisation, metropolisation, Ukraine*

The proliferation of dispersed and fragmented urban forms and extended urbanization processes in Europe has been continuously challenging the established administrative borders and governance models (Robinson & Le Galès 2024, 10). In this context, the issue of institutional fragmentation of a city-region, defined morphologically, functionally, economically, or epistemologically, comes to the forefront. It is addressed by specific state strategies and policies that open up new territories for urbanisation (Topalović & Schmid 2023). It also signifies the erosion of the meso (provincial) level of territorial governance, necessitating the urban authorities to assume responsibility over the broader territorial scale (Cardoso & Meijers 2021). However, this debate often overlooks the revision of a local government's size occurring under the guise of decentralisation, backed up by numerous international organisations and financial institutions (Zimmermann & Feiertag 2022; Hendriks et al. 2010). This presentation addresses the condition of core cities in Ukraine that were included into the massive effort of revising the size of administrative units and altering the territorial mandate of local governments started in 2014 (Romanova & Umland 2024). As a result, 87% of core cities went through administrative merger with their productive hinterland, creating new obligations concerning services provision and infrastructure planning, but also fostering urbanisation. In the context of the ongoing Russian aggression, these territories at the metropolitan fringe can be viewed as strategic areas for resilience (Marques & Alvim 2024). From serving as buffer zones during shelling or military advances to providing land for accommodating displaced populations and production facilities or ensuring food security during the logistical chains' disruption, they consolidate areas of potential urban expansion, while remaining fragmented and neglected. A closer look at the fringe areas thus can generate insights concerning the future planning scenarios for Ukrainian core cities, accommodating divergent impulses for shrinking, integration, and adaptation.



Katarzyna Piskorek, Magdalena Belof, Agnieszka Szumilas

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Building the cooperative East-West networks in times of war

Key words: *post-war reconstruction; international cooperation; knowledge transfer*

The outbreak of a full-scale war in Ukraine has engaged numerous European countries in activities aimed at post-war reconstruction plans. Cities, companies, and institutions have opened dedicated support and knowledge exchange programmes. A very important sphere of assistance to Ukraine is the support for ongoing and post-war urban reconstruction, which encompasses many dimensions, ranging from new urban planning through new architectural concepts for public buildings and housing to the renovation and restoration of damaged buildings and architectural heritage sites. Interestingly, all these aspects seem to be reflected in the multidimensional actions promoted by the European Union, implemented under the formulas: C&S (Coordination and Support), R&D (Research and Development) and R&I (Research and Innovation). Therefore, along with competitions, workshops, projects, and publications dedicated to urban recovery in Ukraine, multiple EU and overseas programmes have emerged, with a significant increase in the frequency of these activities after 24.02. 2022. The authors particularly examine activities undertaken in the fields of architecture, spatial planning, and urban governance, which have been carried out by international organisations (including the European Union), individual countries, universities, and R&D institutions. However, some prominent initiatives of individual commercial-oriented institutions are also denoted. The thematic scope embraces the analysis of scientific publications, European (led by EU and at national levels) support programmes, scientific partnerships and institutional cooperation, as well as architectural, urban design, and planning competitions dedicated to post-war reconstruction. The analyses are supported by open interviews with relevant stakeholders. The authors' intention is to identify the general process dynamics and recognise trends in urban recovery of Ukraine and its most significant actors.



Konrad Lewacki

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Transforming Urban Landscapes: Housing Development and the Potential of Obsolete Areas in Wrocław (2014-2024)

Key words: *housing development; obsolete areas; Wrocław*

The primary objective of this article is to examine housing development in Wrocław from 2014 to 2024, with a specific focus on the transformation of obsolete areas identified in the author's previous research. In 2014, the author conducted a comprehensive study that categorized and inventoried obsolete areas in Wrocław. These areas, which include industrial zones, military areas, and urban wastelands, have lost their original functions due to changes in the urban structure or have functions that are incongruent with their status within the city's functional and

spatial framework. Notably, many of these areas are centrally located within the city's spatial structure.



Janusz Ziobrowski

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Genius loci in the Age of Information. A study into centrality on the example of Kraków's New City Center 50 years after its initial proposal

Key words: *architecture; urban planning; locality; anthroposcene; recentralization*

Presented study concerns creation of the regulatory plan for the Kraków's New Downtown from 1967 and clashes it with the synopsis of the current state of city's municipal structures. The plan above was a strategic document created to meet the needs of the ever-growing metropolis, yet, it also had also a significant political meaning, being a tool to be used against deprecated Christian, intelligentsial socio-cultural common image of the former capital. Nowadays, after 50 years, the city still did not develop its functional downtown to facilitate it growing administrative and commercial needs, especially in the context of the challenges of the Age of Information, including migration, creeping urban sprawl and pollution. Due to the presence of lively energy of the capital and dynamic, rapidly changing environment of the anthroposcene, the need for such a center seems to be a crucial necessity. The idea of the study is to reiterate on the long -forgotten concept, revising both the political thought that had been in place and its utopian lineament rooted in the modern movement. Case study of Kraków can be seen as an inductive research into optimal formal and functional solutions in a place deeply rooted in history; a place which is both outstanding and demanding. It confronts Kraków's sacrum with technology. It is a reflection on the essence of the recentralization in 21st century, sanctioning the necessity of planning in accordance with the local conditions and functions which were proven crucial through their tested longevity.



Maria Hełdak

Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences

The impact of the technical condition of downtown housing development on the standard of living of older adults

Key words: *decapitalization of the residential buildings, deficiencies in the equipment of apartments, housing policy*

The progressive decapitalization of the housing fabric located in the inner-city zones of Polish cities is a huge problem for local authorities. A significant part of the residential buildings were put into use before 1945 and had not been modernized for decades. The standard of living in residential buildings from the early 20th century in Poland is in most cases very low. Residents with higher incomes move to new housing estates, and as a result, residents with lower incomes, retirees and pensioners who cannot afford renovations or moving stay in these zones. The aim of the study is to present the issue of decapitalization of the housing fabric in connection with architectural and technical barriers to the movement of older adults. This intensifies social

problems. Research conducted in Wałbrzych and Jelenia Góra revealed deficiencies in the equipment of apartments and high technical wear and tear of buildings. The analysis of spatial policy and other planning documents (spatial planning acts) indicates attempts to solve the problems of decapitalization of housing development. Spatial policy should indicate further development and directions of transformation of residential buildings in city centers in order to counteract their degradation. Moreover, the authorities should take measures to prevent the creation of excluded living zones in cities. Research indicates a huge problem faced by the city authorities in adapting apartments to older people and the problem of residents of municipal apartments. Residents, often elderly and disabled people, are deprived of the opportunity to exchange for an apartment adapted to their needs.



Branislav Antonić, Aleksandar Grujičić

University of Belgrade

Urban Centrality, Identity and Design: A New Project for the Square of Holy Trinity in Sombor, Serbia

Key words: *urban design; public square; urban morphology; city Identity; Central Europe*

The historic centre of Sombor, known as “Венац/Venac”, is the best preserved one among medium-sized cities in Serbia. Venac was formed in 18th-19th centuries by the efforts of Habsburg Empire to ‘Europeanise’ the barren and severally underpopulated space of southern Pannonian Plain, reconquered from Ottoman Empire after several very destructive wars. Habsburgs enforced complete land and settlement redevelopment here. Sombor was one of rare exemptions, as the city matrix was more gradually regulated then fully remodelled, so its segments from medieval and oriental times were subtly incorporated into the appearance of ‘Central-European’ city. After the World War I, Sombor lost its former administrative status and became a border city, which has slowed its development and somehow conserved an ‘old city’ character. Last years, the rise of cultural tourism along the nearby Danube has caused the rediscovery of Sombor by tourists. This situation has triggered Sombor authorities and experts to begin with the regeneration of the historic centre. One of new projects was an open competition for the remodelling and refurbishment of the Square of Holy Trinity, the central manifestation openair place in the city, without significant greenery and urban furniture. The whole centre is under state protection as a valuable urban ambience, with strict protective measures. Hence, all competition proposals had to sensitively incorporate the elements of local identity into urban design. This had to be further explained by short research about the historic meaning of the square, local heritage and identity, with a clear reflection into design. Such setting for a ‘research+design’ competition refocused ordinary designer work from the final project solution to process of creating it. In line with this, the aim of this paper is to present the structure and phases of creative process in proposing a new urban design for the Square of Holy Trinity to preserve it as a central place in Sombor.



Xu Cong, Tsoyu Cavin Lin

National Chengchi University

The Impact of Hukou System Reform: A Natural Experiment in China's First-Tier Cities

Key words: *Hukou System Reform, Labor Mobility, Economic Development, First-Tier Cities*

This paper utilizes the natural experiment of the hukou system reform in China's first-tier cities to study the impact of labor mobility on economic development. Since the 1980s, the Chinese government has gradually relaxed restrictions on population movement, particularly by removing hukou restrictions in first-tier cities. This reform has significantly facilitated the flow of labor from inland areas to coastal first-tier cities. We develop a new economic geography model to simulate the impact of hukou system reform on labor mobility in first-tier cities. The model predicts that removing hukou restrictions will significantly increase population growth in first-tier cities, with a more pronounced effect in smaller cities. To test these theoretical predictions, we use microdata from population and economic censuses to compare the differences in population growth before and after the reform between Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen and other inland cities. We employ a combination of Difference-in-Differences (DID) and Propensity Score Matching (PSM) methods to identify the causal effects of the hukou system reform. The empirical results align with the theoretical predictions: removing hukou restrictions increased the annual population growth rate in first-tier cities relative to inland cities by 1.2 percentage points. Further results indicate that the reform significantly boosted employment growth, human capital accumulation, and total factor productivity in first-tier cities, which are key channels through which the reform promoted population growth. By comparing the heterogeneity of reform effects across cities of different population sizes, we find that smaller cities benefit more, further supporting the model's predictions. Compared to existing studies, this paper offers several innovations: First, it uses large-scale microdata to depict the impact of hukou system reform on first-tier cities; second, it adopts the DID-PSM method to effectively address endogeneity issues arising from omitted variables; third, it examines multiple potential mechanisms, including population growth, employment growth, and productivity improvement. The findings suggest that promoting labor mobility is crucial for economic growth in developing countries. China's experience also provides new perspectives for understanding the urbanization processes in other emerging economies.



Marta Gross, Ada Wolny-Kucińska, Agnieszka Dawidowicz, Małgorzata Dudzińska

University of Warmia nad Mazury in Olsztyn

"Bottlenecks" - when infrastructure fails to keep pace with urban development.

Key words: *bottleneck; transportation infrastructure; travel behaviour; threats; congestion*

Development plans for transportation infrastructure should be linked to the growth of cities and their functional areas in accordance with the principle of integrated spatial development. However, both in the planning phase and in the implementation of infrastructure investments, there are risks that lead to delays in the construction of transportation infrastructure due to land use and ownership patterns, as well as specific environmental conditions (such as water barriers

and weak soils). As a result "bottlenecks" emerge, where infrastructure urgently needs reconstruction or organizational changes due to inconvenience, burden on communities, and the natural environment. Increased population flows between urban cores and commuting zones, as well as intra-city flows, lead to congestion on existing transportation networks, affecting transportation mode choices. The purpose of this study is to highlight the issue of "bottlenecks" as one of the main transportation threats from the perspective of travel behaviour.



Maciej Piekarski

Rzeszów University of Technology

Railway areas - transformation from the urban periphery into the city's spine - a concept for Rzeszów

Key words: *urban planning, urban transport, city functionalization*

The dominant role of railways in transporting goods over long distances resulted in the past in the location of industrial and warehousing infrastructure along railway lines. These areas, located on the outskirts of cities, are now often centrally located due to the expansion of cities. They constitute in the urban tissue isolated enclaves of peripherality, dividing cities into districts without cohesion. One of the cities where the outlined problem occurs is Rzeszów. The author began the research by selecting in Rzeszów and surroundings the areas where large groups of people live or work, and which, due to their location, could be served by rail transport. Areas located close to existing railway lines or unused railway sidings or places of non-existent sidings were taken into account. People flows were estimated using, among others, numerical data provided by the Rzeszów City Hall. Based on the on-site visit and map analysis, the accessibility of many railway stops was critically assessed. In several cases, they were found to be completely isolated from walking, cycling and bus corridors. In several other cases, the potential of existing land development for the location of transfer centers was noticed. Based on travel times from current timetables, the maximum capacity of selected railway lines was assessed and the number of passengers who could be transported by rail was estimated. As a result of the research and analysis, the set of conclusions has been formulated. A list of projects leading to the creation of a rail connection system based on existing railway lines, which would constitute the core of the urban transport system, has been presented. They include infrastructure projects and organization of new railway connections. One of the important demands is the introduction of connections bypassing the main station, which is currently the beginning or end of all connections in agglomeration rail transport. The directions of transformation of the bus network necessary to ensure coherence of bus connections with rail transport were indicated. None of the proposed projects require deep interventions in the existing urban fabric or costly infrastructure investments that would be associated with the construction of a completely new urban transport system.



Michał Małyśz, Mikołaj Grosel

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

The role of transport nodes in Wrocław in challenging urban congestion - centre vs outskirts

Key words: *multimodal nodes, transport nodes, Wrocław, urban transport, tram transport*

Transport congestion is one of the crucial challenges for Wrocław as one of the biggest cities in Poland. There are several proposals to limit car traffic in the city including multimodal nodes built on the outskirts of the city, allowing to leave the car at a Park and Ride car park and continuing travel to the city center using public transport. In the centre, numerous transport nodes at intersections allow to change the transport mode between trams and buses. The planning documents for the city define five types of nodes: central, inner-city, inner-city supporting, directional and urban-agglomeration and assign different roles to them. The aim of the article is to verify whether the functions assigned to each type of nodes are actually implemented. For this purpose, a proposal of a method combining qualitative and quantitative analyzes based on the identification of positive and negative factors and their impact on passenger service is used. In the work, nodes are analyzed from two perspectives: network - based on quantitative features, including connectivity with other nodes and access parameters and from the perspective of infrastructure - in terms of qualitative features encouraging the use of transport solutions implemented by the city. As a result, it will be possible to determine the differences between center and outskirts nodes, as well as to identify the nodes that function efficiently and those that require improvement to better influence the suitable decreasing the congestion in the city.



Maciej Skulimowski

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Sustainable mobility as a countermeasure to dispersion

Key words: *sustainable mobility; urban planning; suburbanization;*

Sustainable mobility as a response to suburbanization is often oversimplified, with the scope of the subject narrowed down to the construction of a tramline or a train stop. However the issue is far more complex, and truly effective solutions are considerably more sophisticated. The paper explores the definition of sustainable mobility, its components, and the properties that should distinguish both transportation systems and planned or redesigned suburban developments. Moreover the subject is complemented with examples of not only systematic and matured solutions but also new and locally innovative approaches that are only introducing Sustainable Mobility ideas to local societies. The key element of the paper is an interdisciplinary and systematic approach to sustainable mobility. The essence of the discussed matter lies in the strong relationship between the form of an estate, transportation choices, and the municipality's ability to implement its transportation policies. The primary focus of the research is on traffic-related issues and aspects of suburban estates, their origins, and potential remedies, which can be categorized as sustainable mobility solutions. Through clever spatial planning interconnected

with the use of available tools the municipality could shape the development of high-quality suburban estates that are well-connected to the urban core.



Anastasiia Zhokhova, Magdalena Belof

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Making Kyiv a cycle friendly city

Key words: *urban cycling, sustainable mobility, Ukraine green recovery, civil society movements*

Developing cycling transport is a crucial component in implementing sustainable development policies in modern cities. However, city authorities often lack awareness of this need and are slow to implement the necessary changes, both in terms of infrastructure and management instruments. In such cases, grassroots social movements, particularly those associated with cycling culture, often act as catalysts for transformation. Our article presents the emergence, development and recent achievements of cyclist movements in Ukraine, with a particular focus on promoting sustainable urban transport in the capital Kyiv. The key role in this movement is played by the U-Cycle NGO with its institutional potential and expertise-based activism. Although there have been political resistance and tokenism, this grassroots cycling movement has made significant progress, not only providing a base of expertise for the development of cycling transport in Kyiv, but also imposing the construction of basic cycle infrastructure, influencing urban policies and management tools and inducing substantial changes in respective national legal regulations. By analysing the methods and instruments adopted by the organisation and comparing them with those used by cycling activism in Western countries, we claim that the Ukrainian cycling movement applies similar approaches and tools however not necessary with the same positive effects. We try to answer the question what are the main obstacles to greater success. Through the triangulation of research methods, a qualitative and in-depth insight into effects and factors influencing the change of Kyiv mobility model was possible. The research methods included unstructured interviews with the U-Cycle activists and other actors involved in the process; a structured and critical analysis of working papers, policy documents, and other background materials, and participant observation.



Piotr Węgrzynowicz, Dorota Jopek

Cracow University of Economics

Local matters – in search of lost time

Key words: *dispersion; local matters; mobility; public spaces; leisure time*

The sprawling residential areas of suburbs pose a number of challenges for cities. They affect not only the shaping of development policy, but above all the daily lives of residents. Limited access to workplaces, education and services, as well as poorly developed social and recreational infrastructure are just some of the problems faced by people living on the outskirts. To investigate this problem more thoroughly, a study was conducted in the Krakow Functional Area. The aim was to identify the most popular forms of leisure time spent by suburban residents and to assess the availability and quality of local public spaces. The study involved surveys and

geospatial analyses. The results clearly show that suburban residents are dissatisfied with the availability and quality of local public spaces. There is a shortage of parks, playgrounds and sports fields, and those that do exist are often in poor technical condition. One solution to the problem may be to increase investment in new local public spaces in the suburbs. New social infrastructure will not only improve the quality of life of residents, but can also become an impulse for the creation of centers for integration of the local community. Investing in local public spaces in the suburbs is not only about improving the comfort of life for residents, but also about the benefits for the city as a whole. Better social and recreational infrastructure can stimulate the development of the local economy, reduce crime and improve the city's image. The study conducted in the Krakow Functional Area shows that the problem of suburban sprawl is complex and requires a comprehensive solution. It is necessary to coordinate the actions of local authorities, investors and residents to create people-friendly spaces in the suburbs that promote social integration and sustainable development.



Aleksandar Grujičić, Branislav Antonić

University of Belgrade

Serbian Cities after the Population Census 2022 The Sprawl of Urban Shrinkage from Borderland to Inner Peripheries

Key words: *Urban shrinkage; Spatial periphery; Borderland; Population Census; Urban Clusters*

The latest national population census in 2022 revealed that almost 90% of 167 urban settlements in Serbia were demographic shrinking. This is even a more negative results that from the previous census in 2011, when 74% of them were shrinking ones. Practically, all urban settlements in Serbia outside Belgrade and Novi Sad metropolitan areas, plus several booming tourist destinations, are losing population due to weak socio-economic performance. It also means that spatial and urban planning based just on a “growth/shrinkage” dichotomy cannot be simply applied as such. Hence, this study aims interlinking the demographic data from the census 2022 with the other characteristics of Serbian cities, such as their location, size, regional organisation and administrative status, to interpret the patterns of demographic shrinkage. The main patterns extracted from the census 2011 was the centre-periphery difference between the main corridor with three key cities in Serbia – Novi Sad, Belgrade and Niš – and urban fringe along national borders. The results from the census 2022 shows a more complex patterns of urban shrinkage, which implies that the formation of new urban clusters is necessary in addressing this currently main challenge in Serbian urbanisation.



Katarzyna Kuzara, Robert Szmytkie, Agnieszka Lisowska-Kierepka

University of Wrocław

Dynamics and Spatial Differentiation of Population Changes in Suburban Areas in the Post-Socialist Period. A Case Study of Wrocław (Poland)

Key words: *spatial differentiation, population changes, suburban zone, Wrocław city*

One of the most important manifestations of suburban development today is the phenomenon of residential suburbanization. This is evident in the form of an increased influx of new residents and construction traffic to suburban zones. In the case of Wrocław, as in other cities, dynamically emerging residential development has led to the formation of a distinct ring of suburbs. In most existing studies, the residential suburbanization have been analyzed on the basis of the conditions and the occurring effects of this phenomenon, and their scale presented by means of the dynamics and volume of construction traffic. However, the most important factor, shaping the deglomeration trends, is the changes in the number of residents, caused by increased migration to the suburban areas. The purpose of this research is to determine the dynamics and spatial differentiation of population changes in the suburban area of Wrocław. Analyses of population changes based on statistical data from the four last National Censuses in Poland (1988, 2002, 2011, 2021) for statistical localities using GIS tools.



Ashu Chaudhary, Bhanu Khanna, Manjusha Bharti

The School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

Delhi's Case of urban renewal through the master planning process

Key words: *Delhi Master Plan, Comprehensive Redevelopment Strategies, Sustainable development, piecemeal redevelopment, Gentrification*

Master Plans developed for Delhi since independence tried to address the issue of urban inequalities through various redevelopment mechanisms. While the process evolved from depopulation strategies to comprehensive regeneration strategies, the lack of bottom-up social, environmental, and economic command led to gentrification in many areas posing to be a challenge to the region's sustainable development. The comprehensive redevelopment strategy in the Master Plan does not lay a pragmatic procedural checklist, leaving room for deviation from the theory of comprehensive planning. The paper examines 3 of such case studies of redevelopment in Delhi and explains the nature of failures and success amongst each case study that deviates from and aligns with the ideal theoretical approach of redevelopment, respectively. The paper reviews various scholars' literature on the urban redevelopment process to compare the provisions made in the redevelopment process as explained in a series of Delhi Master plans (MPD – 1962, MPD – 2001, MPD 2021, Draft MPD 2041). The paper concludes the complex nature of the administrative setup and acts that legalize the redevelopment mechanism (DDA Act 1952) in Delhi leading to slow paces, piecemeal redevelopment on the ground that formed the basis of gentrification in the city core. The literature on the urban redevelopment process by Kevin Fox Gotham, Jane Jacobs, R. Weber, etc. is compared with the urban redevelopment process for Delhi given in Master plans and compares the various master plans of Delhi (MPD –

1962, MPD – 2001, MPD 2021, Draft MPD 2041) development since independence to understand the obstacles in the process.



Justyna Kleszcz

Opole University of Technology

Urban self-sufficiency as an island solution and its impact on the transformation of urban structures. The European versus the American model

Key words: *self-cointainment; housing estate; urban agriculture*

This paper presents the results of research on the spatial solutions of contemporary self-contained urban islands, which are created as independent settlements or as a result of the transformation or revitalization of existing housing complexes based on a multi-criteria multifaceted case study analysis, which also includes a functional, structural and morphological analysis of selected examples of completed projects as well as those that have not been built but are intended for implementation. The analyzed cases were divided into two categories based on their location in European and North American developments due to the highest concentration of contemporary self-contained settlements in the area, and the visible difference in the applied spatial solutions and the extent to which they are linked to urban structures. The settlements analyzed included, among others, S*Park in Denver (USA), Grow Community in Bainsbridge Island (USA), Secret Gardens in Montpellier (France), H-O-M-E in Mannheim (Germany), New Agricultural District in Oslo (Norway), La Cité Maraîchère in Romainville (France), Cureghem in Anderlecht (Belgium), Magellan in Colombes (France), which were compared with sustainable and ecological settlements in a 'conventional' approach, such as Vauban in Freiburg (Germany), or BO-01 in Malmo (Sweden). The conducted research revealed the complexity of the urban processes taking place and the tendency to create self-sufficient urban islands, whose structure is fully integrated into the surrounding urban fabric, but with the application of new spatial, functional, and technological solutions. The new need for urban self-sufficiency has been examined in terms of the extent to which solutions described in theoretical models of settlements such as the ReGen Village and those used in typical sustainable estates can be applied.



Michelle Mbazuigwe

University of Warsaw

The structure of open public space of the megacity in the Global South. Example of Lagos, Nigeria

Key words: *open public space; Global South; postcolonial city; Lagos; megacity*

Open public spaces within megacities of the Global South, which are natural centralities of social life, offer a nuanced glimpse into the dynamics of urbanization. Postcolonial cities, shaped by a myriad of historical factors including pre-colonial legacies, colonial influences, and post-independence developments, present a challenge to understanding their layered identities. Additionally, contemporary factors such as neocolonial dependencies further shape the urban

landscape of these cities. By examining Lagos, Nigeria, I gain insight into the socio-economic, demographic, cultural, neocolonial, environmental, and climatic factors influencing these urban environments. Lagos, renowned as a hub of trade, finance, and culture not only within Nigeria but across Africa, distinguishes itself with a population exceeding 20 million, establishing it as one of the continent's largest and most rapidly sprawling city. A city of contrasts, Lagos blends tradition with modernity and local customs with global influences. However, Lagos contends with an array of challenges, ranging from infrastructural deficiencies to environmental degradation and social issues. To truly comprehend the urban landscapes of the Global South, it is essential to transcend Eurocentric viewpoints and acknowledge the neocolonial dependencies perpetuating spatial inequalities. In Lagos, pressures from investments and rapid population growth intensify the scarcity of open public spaces. Escalating land prices drive the utilization of every available plot, resulting in chaotic development and regulatory gaps. Harsh climate and environmental conditions further compound these challenges, highlighting disparities in the utilization of outdoor spaces that underscore the city's social stratification. In the presentation, I aim to spotlight various open public spaces in Lagos while introducing a new classification that accounts for the region's unique characteristics, based on field research carried out in March 2024.



Adrian Porada

Vienna University of Technology

From large housing estate to multifunctional neighborhood: changes of built environment and functionality of postwar housing estates in post-socialist cities

Key words: *large housing estate; postwar housing; compact city; post-socialist city*

Large housing estates are a defining and integral component of urban residential structure, particularly prevalent in post-socialist cities and a home to a significant portion of the urban population. Originated during the postwar demographic boom, they were conceived to address housing shortage and offer essential infrastructure to fulfill residents basic needs. In the era of „real socialism” residing in those estates formed the cornerstone of comprehensive housing policy and essentially served as the only way for enhancing living standards. In today’s context and against the backdrop of urban development, large housing estates grapple with numerous challenges. The transformations occurring within them exert a growing influence on residents’ quality of life and overall competitiveness within the city structure. The present study examines the transformations of the built environment and the functional-spatial structure of large housing estates, with particular emphasis on issues related to compactness and multifunctionality of urban structures. The analysis is based on examples of selected residential complexes from Brno, Dresden, and Wroclaw, as cities of similar scale and significance in the settlement structure in the countries. The study sheds light on the processes and directions of change occurring in these characteristic residential areas and confronts them with contemporary paradigms of urban development, such as compact city, multifunctional city, functional self-containment, and sustainable development. Understanding these processes is crucial for shaping the future of residential estates in post-socialist cities and for their resilience to challenges arising from urban development.



Siqi Miao, Xiudi Tang

Polytechnic University of Milan

Drone delivery system, drone delivery station distribution, urban nodes, urban development strategy, service distribution

Key words: *micro-centres, suburbanization, local policy, spatial structure-transition*

The development of urban drone delivery systems represents a significant paradigm shift in urban planning and development. The paper explores the creation of a set of critical attributes to determine the distribution of drone delivery stations in urban settings. The paper considers how these technologies can influence the evolution of urban nodes and networks, acknowledging the transformative potential of drone delivery in recalibrating the balance between centrality and dispersion in urban contexts. The study employs a methodology that combines a systematic review of existing literature with the identification of relevant data sources. It articulates a comprehensive classification of determinants into five key areas: urban spatial characteristics, drone operational attributes, socio-economic dynamics, regulatory and safety considerations, and environmental impacts. This classification forms the basis for exploring the ways in which drone delivery stations may function as new urban nodes, potentially affecting or challenging established urban structures of spatiality and hierarchies. The research aims to provide a detailed attributes set highlighting key considerations when integrating drone delivery systems into urban environments. This attribute set aims to provide urban planners and policymakers with a foundational tool for rethinking urban development strategies in the age of drone technology. By strategically locating drone delivery stations, cities can foster more resilient, equitable and efficiently connected urban futures.



Henry Endemann

Buck Consultants International, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Strategic Spatial Scenarios – Better Decisions for Megaprojects and Megaregions

Key words: *scenarios; spatial strategies; megaprojects; megaregions*

Urbanization in the 21st century extends conventional city scales at an enormous pace. Key expressions of this are expansive regional strategies (megaregions) and large-scale urban developments (megaprojects). The scale, complexity, and extreme degree of concentration caused by these transformations fundamentally challenge conventional modes of design and planning. Scenario-building is a common tool to tackle urban-regional challenges and related uncertainties. However, urban planners struggle to use scenarios systematically. Comprehensive synthesis and testing of urban scenario methodologies remains scarce. Conversely, the field of business management presents an extensive and in-depth knowledge base for using scenarios to shape corporate strategies. This could help planners to move towards more robust scenario-building processes, addressing the most relevant spaces and actors in megaregions. Presumably, key issues in this conversion could be to shift the focus from profit and expansion towards social and environmental values. This paper presents an overview of theory on scenario-building in both urban planning and business management and tests its applicability to current developments around megaprojects in megaregions. After emphasizing the urgency to adapt

planning processes for megaregions, the paper provides a synthesis of literature on scenarios in both urban planning and business management. Subsequently, an initial framework for building strategic spatial scenarios in the context of megaprojects and megaregions is presented. Ultimately, the paper argues that a strategic approach to building spatially specific scenarios can help support better decisions in urban environments undergoing fast and radical processes of urban concentration.



Ewa Tokarska-Gołębiewska, Maciej Szarejko

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

From Schelling' Model to Territorial Conflict Resilience and Deescalation Techniques Urban Planning as a Peace-making Tool

Key words: *social modelling; cooperation; cultural preferences; social dynamics*

Schelling's model of segregation describes that even a slight preference for similarity among individuals can lead to significant levels of segregation over time. Through repeated iterations, the model demonstrates how the initial random distribution of individuals can evolve into highly segregated patterns, even if individuals have only a slight preference for similarity. Modelled migration patterns show that individuals' preference for similarity influences their choice of destinations, where they anticipate greater acceptance and integration into communities of other similar individuals. Consequently, this concentration strengthens cultural centres. We propose extending the classic Schelling model with a mid-level decision-making module. The principle of this module is based on specialized spontaneous neighbourly cooperation and an individual sense of security (or lack thereof). It is crucial to emphasize that cooperation in secure conditions at the macro-scale level manifests itself as a safe neighbourhood. The most antagonistic is the manifestation of defensive cooperation, operating in conditions of threat, and on a macro scale manifesting itself as chronic neighbourly conflicts, in extreme cases resulting in aggression, or even war. We present a design solution adequate to an architectural scale. While ensuring an individual sense of security, the proposal can influence neighbourhood cooperation towards its peaceful and development-oriented version. Implementation of thereof should contain its inhabitants defensive cooperation, which is susceptible to escalation. In conclusion, implementing modules based on Schelling's model through aspects that increase territorial conflict resilience allows for impact on ways of cooperation within the neighbourhood. The implementation of the proposed design forms can potentially emerge as a deliberate De-escalation Technique in areas at high risk of defensive collaboration.



Anna Zadorożna

Wrocław University of Science and Technology

Rhizome theory in the study of the dynamics of modern cities in the age of dispersion

Key words: *rhizom; dispersion; city; decentralizacion; heterogenity*

Living in an age of dispersion, with its characteristic disappearance of centrality, multilayered complexity and constantly changing structure, Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari's concept of the rhizome offers a new interpretation of contemporary urban dynamics. A rhizoma is a metaphor of thought, which has no beginning or end and no distinguished centre. It is in constant motion, and the winding rhizomes are subject to constant change and modification. In urban studies, rhizome theory can help to understand contemporary cities in an age of dispersal. By analysing the principles of rhizoma, as defined by the authors, contemporary urbanism can be seen as a plurality and a dispersal of multiple value systems and perspectives, often incompatible and mutually exclusive. It perfectly reflects the specificity of urban processes with their typical dynamics and the dominance of multiplicity and diversity. The city becomes a reflection of the irreducible nature of the plurality of our experiences and desires. Applying the concept of rhizomes to understand the modern city as a flexible and multi-layered structure gives justice to its dispersed, decentralised and unpredictable nature.



Moti Kaplan

Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Evolution of Planning Policy in Israel: From Dispersion to Concentration and Back

Key words: *National Planning Policy, Population Dispersion, Population Concentration, Spatial Planning, Rural Settlement, Strengthening of Urban Centers*

The article reviews the changes that have taken place in Israel's planning policy, from an initial preference for dispersion during the state's first decades to a subsequent emphasis on concentration in urban centers in the early 2000s. The dispersal-concentration tension is once again surfacing, in light of the National Planning and Building Council's recent decisions to encourage rural settlements and ease restrictions on their expansion. These decisions will likely impact development of cities and jeopardize agricultural land and nature. This article, based on qualitative and quantitative research, will investigate the anticipated implications of the change in policy on open spaces in Israel and on the development of cities, in terms of both urban planning and quality of life.



Tymon Wolender

Polytechnic University of Turin

The River Sensitive City. A sensible gaze to foster river-centered development

Key words: *water sensitive city; urban development; urban water design; urban rivers; river-centered development*

Water, often referred to as the lifeblood of our planet, has historically shaped human settlements, serving as a focal point for urban development. Traditionally, human settlements organized themselves along freshwater sources such as rivers and lakes, aligning their activities with the natural flow of water. However, with the advent of modern infrastructure, the necessity of direct proximity to freshwater diminished, leading to the treatment of rivers as mere infrastructure rather than integral components of urban landscapes. Recently, there has been a significant shift in the approach to urban rivers, driven by heightened environmental awareness and evolving social expectations. This shift represents a paradigmatic change, offering an opportunity to restore rivers to a central role in urban development, echoing their historical significance. This research explores the potential for rivers to reclaim their central role in urban development and the benefits associated with this new perspective. It examines theoretical debates within governance, planning, and design related to urban waters, aiming to bridge academic discourse with the practical challenges and opportunities posed by urban rivers and their communities. Furthermore, it seeks to identify effective responses to address the complexity of this issue. Drawing on a review of literature from both theoretical and practical perspectives in urban water management, planning, and design, this research traces the evolution in the perception and treatment of urban rivers, highlighting emerging trends. It then applies this theoretical framework to a case study of the riverscape in Turin, Italy—a prime example of how rivers, despite their immense potential, became overlooked and secondary. Through empirical observation and analysis of the institutional framework, the research uncovers the unique challenges faced by urban rivers and their communities in Turin. It explores the potential of a river-centered approach to address these challenges. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of urban rivers in contemporary urban development. By emphasizing the importance of urban rivers and advocating for a more river-centric approach to urban planning and design, this research aims to foster a renewed focus on river-oriented centrality, positioning rivers as pivotal elements in addressing the complex challenges of urban development within contemporary socio-political contexts.



Marek Gachowski, Marcin Budziński, Agnieszka Raczek, Agnieszka Szostak, Ewa Palarczyk
Academy of Silesia

Directions of the reconstruction of the city structure based on the model of a consistent network of interpenetrating open and green urban public spaces in the realities of the GZM Metropolis (Upper Silesia/Dabrowa Basin Metropolis- South Poland) in the context of sustainable development.

Key words: *Consistent urban structure, GZM metropolis, open/green spaces balance*

Socio-urban conflicts in the structure of the Metropolis have reached a level that requires significant changes. The success of the introducing changes depends to a large extent on their social acceptance, when they are in line with the expectations of GZM users. For this reason, an attempt to determine their directions was also based on taking care of the opinion of the inhabitants of the metropolis as stakeholders. Surveys in the GZM area were conducted in 2023 and 2024. In addition, in 2024, comparative surveys were carried out in the area of the Tri-City (Gdańsk-Sopot-Gdynia) Metropolis (North Poland) and in the Ruhr Metropolis (Germany). Such a selection is based on the similar morphology of selected areas – polycentric conurbations. The study was conducted using the CAWI method on a research panel online. The study was cross-sectional and aimed to survey a group of residents of all three preselected Metropolis based on sociodemographic criteria. The results of the surveys were analysed in interdisciplinary teams to find complex social - urban dependencies and relationships. The results of these analyses indicate that the development of urban public open spaces, (squares and streets with their enclosing functions), as well as urban public green spaces, is comparatively important for the inhabitants of the GZM Metropolis. The above results show that in order to maintain spatial and area coherence as well as synergy of the city space, it is advisable to build its structure based on a compact and consistent network of interpenetrating spaces of both types, creating a complex public space of the city. There are many indications that the city space built in this way will be conducive to reducing the occurrence of various urban social exclusions. This will result in greater integration of the users of the metropolis. In the conditions of GZM (Poland), building a complex and consistent network of public space is possible due to the industrial past of the area, where post-industrial areas occur in the immediate vicinity of the most important urban public open spaces.



Mihail Sandu-Dumitriu

Babeş-Bolyai University

Restitution, land fragmentation, and spatial planning. What went wrong? A case study in Romania

Key words: *Restitution, land fragmentation, spatial planning, urban sprawling, metropolitan area*

The 1990s' property restitution and privatization laws opened in Romania the paths for reshaping rural territories. The ownership structure change led to a high fragmentation of land, which set the preconditions for a specific morphology of urbanization. When placed in the proximity of a regional center, the rural localities underwent a distinct transformation led mostly by the speculative interests of the early 2000s' real estate boom. What started as a

suburbanization process diverged into an intensive sprawled urbanization helped by the context of a public administration infused with neo-liberal political-economic ideas. This presentation argues that the land property geography of Bragadiru - a newly formed city at the outskirts of Bucharest, Romania's capital city - and of similar towns and cities, and the individual financial interests of the investors influenced the urban planning process and the spatial morphology, which resulted in highly dysfunctional urban areas, with poor condition of living and poor infrastructure. I will present zonal urban plans (an instrument for private developers to change a city's masterplan according to their needs) to illustrate how private interests are featured in the public discourse and how they intertwine. I will show, using statistical data, what are the main vectors that connect Bragadiru and Bucharest, and finally I will present a "what could have been done differently" scenario, in which specific moments from 1990 until present days will be highlighted to show the possibility for different outcomes.



John Adekunle Adesina, Xiaolan Tang; Nnezi Uduma-Olugu

Nanjing Forestry University

Sustainable Urban Design and Green Infrastructure for City Redevelopment and Metropolitan Revitalization- Lagos Mainland

Key words: *green urbanism; open spaces; streetscape; thriving landscapes; urbanization*

Extremely urbanized areas have withstood numerous disputes, disturbances, and catastrophes related to urbanization. Reshaping psycho-emotional well-being and depleting urban environments are the central themes of this research. Lagos has expanded and changed in step with the shifting urban trends but evolution has never been so well-balanced as to be easily defined, with varying preferences, design, construction, and ideals occasionally taking center stage. Palm Avenue a famous street in the Mushin Local Government Area of Lagos State, was previously designed to be a residential estate but it is now a bustling mixed-use neighborhood with both residential, administrative, religious, and commercial activity. Private dwellings that were initially constructed but later converted to other uses have been surpassed by commercial activities. Overall health and well-being, comforts, and livability of people who utilize schools, religious centers, and public buildings are not taken into consideration. The philosophy known as "green urbanism" supports this study. One of the key elements in creating a healthy ecosystem and ensuring that the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, public transportation, and vehicles are balanced is the art and science of greening streets, public spaces, and streetscape design for all users. Five hundred (525) questionnaires were sent out to respondents, who included traders, homeowners, and traders. A total of 422 correctly completed samples were retrieved and utilized for analysis. The Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping was also used to acquire updated land use data for assessment and analysis. In addition to addressing Lagos Mainland's challenges, such as maintaining its historic character, reviving the streets, and neighborhood parks, and creating conceptual frameworks, approaches, and policies for landscape and urban design that incorporate green infrastructure elements into the districts for sustainable urban revitalization and redevelopment. The paper summarizes innovative and adaptive strategies for effective streetscaping and outdoor open space beautification.



Mahima Dagar

TERI University

Unraveling Delhi's Urban Village Paradox: Navigating Planning Loopholes for Sustainable Development

Key words: *Urban villages, Gentrification, Delhi, Unplanned Growth, Policy*

Urban villages in Delhi epitomize a unique blend of tradition and modernity, serving as vital pockets of cultural heritage amidst the sprawling urban landscape. However, rapid urbanization and unplanned growth have thrust these enclaves into the spotlight. This abstract explores the multifaceted challenges posed by the transformation of urban villages in Delhi and evaluates the efficacy of existing policies in addressing these issues. Gentrification, fueled by escalating real estate prices and demand for prime urban spaces, has emerged as a double-edged sword for Delhi's urban villages. On one hand, it brings economic opportunities and infrastructural improvements, but on the other, it exacerbates social inequalities and threatens the cultural fabric of these communities. The influx of affluent residents and commercial enterprises often leads to displacement and marginalization of the indigenous population, underscoring the urgent need for holistic policy frameworks. Delhi's urban villages stand as stark reminders of the consequences of unplanned growth and inadequate urban governance. Characterized by overcrowded settlements, inadequate infrastructure, and environmental degradation, these areas exemplify the shortcomings of piecemeal development strategies. The absence of comprehensive land-use planning and regulatory mechanisms has fostered haphazard construction and encroachment, further exacerbating the urban sprawl and straining resources. Policy interventions play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of urban village development in Delhi. While initiatives such as the Delhi Master Plan and Urban Development Regulations aim to streamline urbanization processes and preserve heritage sites, their implementation often falls short of expectations. Regulatory loopholes, bureaucratic hurdles, and lack of community engagement hinder the effective enforcement of these policies, perpetuating the cycle of ad-hoc development and social inequities. The abstract outlines a comprehensive plan of action for conducting a study aimed at understanding and addressing the complexities of urban village dynamics in Delhi. The study seeks to unravel the multifaceted issues surrounding Delhi's urban villages, including the impacts of gentrification, unplanned growth, and policy interventions. A mixed-methods approach will be employed, combining qualitative techniques such as interviews, focus groups, and participant observation with quantitative methods like surveys and spatial analysis. The study will employ a purposive sampling strategy to select a representative sample of urban villages in Delhi. By identifying gaps and challenges in current policy frameworks, the research will provide actionable recommendations for fostering inclusive and sustainable development in urban villages.



Albeniz Tugce Ezme Gurlek

Kirsehir Ahi Evran University

Effects of Spatial Planning on Social Structure: Kırşehir Bağbaşı District (Türkiye)

Key words: *spatial planning; community links; social structure; urban renewal; Türkiye*

Space and people are two of the most important concepts of social sciences that are intertwined with each other. It is obvious that these two concepts have changed and transformed each other throughout history. Cities constitute the most important observation area of this change. Urban areas, which have been faced with intense interventions throughout history, have also caused the transformation of society with each change. Major social transformations have also assumed the transformative role of urban spaces in history. Especially in the developing world, urban transformation/renewal projects emerge as one of the biggest factors shaping urban space and therefore the lives of urbanites after 2000. Urban renewal projects used by governments as the most important implementation tool of neoliberal urban policies; On the one hand, it rebuilds (destroys) the urban space, and on the other hand, it builds a different/new urban society under the hegemony of the powers. In this construction process, although the urban space is designed by the government, communities tend to revise these designs according to their own needs: just like throughout history. Kırşehir Bağbaşı Urban Transformation Project points out one of the best examples in Turkey where exactly this process can be observed. Residents of the old neighborhood, who demolished the traditional neighborhood fabric and settled in 5-10-storey buildings, try to continue their traditional neighborhood life in these high-rise mass apartment buildings and reshape the space in line with their needs in order to maintain the old community traditions. They also continue old practices of solidarity and daily life by changing the purposes of use of the space. This process, on the one hand, shows us the transformative power of space through the hands of power, and on the other hand, it points out how society transforms space into a field of resistance.

