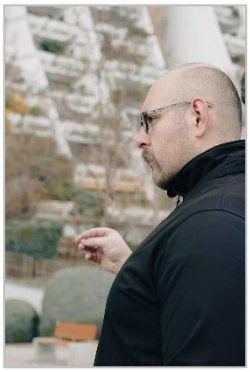
Virtual Winter School "Theory is not boring"

Redevelopment and reconstruction of Transition Regions in Climate and Society changes

14th March 2024

PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES AND ABSTRACTS



Milan Husár, Ph.D. – senior researcher, Spectra CE EU, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

Lecturer and researcher at Spectra Centre of Excellence of the EU at Department of Spatial Planning, Institute of Management, STU Bratislava. He has participated in a number of national international research projects covering topics of smart cities, biodiversity protection and spatial planning. He has a PhD. Degree in spatial planning (2016). In the period 2022-2023, he served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of European Planning Schools AESOP, is a national representative within the Committee of Representatives for Slovakia and works as a senior advisor within the Young Academics Network (2023-2024).

Development in Urban Planning – cities transformation towards the "new normal"

This lecture will cover:

1. What is the 'new normal', what it is bringing and what are its challenges?
2. The main implications of 'new normal' for our cities and for shift in planning paradigm and urban (and post-mining) transformation?
3. What are the qualities of the 'new normal' – new urbanity, new urban population, new urban ecology and new urban society?
4. How can integrated and proactive approach help us to deal with this new situation?

The lecture explores the transformative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on urban spaces, shedding light on the challenges and opportunities that have emerged in the post-pandemic era. We argue argue that the return to public spaces is marked by a profound shift in societal dynamics, fueled by accelerated development processes and technological advancements. The lecture will delve into the implications of this "new normal" for urban development, encompassing economic, societal, and environmental dimensions. We assert that the pandemic

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has catalyzed existing trends, amplifying the scale and speed of change. The widespread adoption of information and communication technologies has facilitated flexible work arrangements, online public involvement, and an expansion of virtual experiences. However, the positive aspects of the "new normal" are juxtaposed against alarming global challenges, including environmental degradation, economic imbalances, and geopolitical tensions such as the Russian aggression against Ukraine. To navigate this complex landscape, we emphasize the importance of aligning urban development with global frameworks such as Agenda 2030 and the New Urban Agenda. Spatial planners, as key stakeholders, are urged to engage in interdisciplinary and international research to comprehend the intricate interlinkages between societal, economic, and environmental subsystems across different geographical scales. The lecture offers a comprehensive exploration of the multifaceted changes occurring in urban spaces in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. It calls for a proactive and integrated approach to urban planning, acknowledging the complexities and nuances inherent in the "new normal" of urban living.

Assoc.Prof. Barbara Vojvodíková, Ph.D. – senior researcher, director at IURS, z.s.

Graduate of economics and national economy. She finished her Ph.D. studies in Mining and Underground Engineering. To increase her knowledge she studied Bc. degree in Geology.

For 25 years she has been dealing with problems in brownfield regeneration. She also focuses on the development problems of the Ostrava and Karviná regions, which are part of the Upper Silesian Coal Basin.

Innovative solutions of infrastructure development – post mining region as a challenge

This lecture will cover:

1. Thinking about the function of infrastructure at the time of extraction
2. What has changed since mining stopped
3. What is the potential of this infrastructure
4. What are the possible solutionsRecommendations and summary.

Regions where minerals have been extracted have always undergone specific developments. This development has always been determined by the success of mining. Mining requires infrastructure. If mining is stopped, major changes occur. The lecture focuses on examples of possible solutions that have been or will be used especially in the Karviná region.

The search for possible solutions often leads to less usual results. The individual steps are long-term, it is always necessary to try to maintain conditions that would encourage people to stay in the region and not leave.

Assoc. Prof. Vladimír Ondrejička, Ph.D. – senior researcher at SPECTRA Centre of Excellence EU, , deputy director at Institute of Managmenet, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

In his professional work, he participates in high-end international research, especially through the preparation and the implementation of international research projects (HE, H2020, Interreg Danube, Interreg Central Europe, Erasmus, etc.). His expertise is mainly focused on spatial planning with emphasis on the topics of ecological connectivity, energy positive districts and energy communities, smart city/region, urban safety as well as strategic planning for sustainable development. As a senior lecturer is focused mainly on the issue of harmonization of interests in the territory and related tools of integrated spatial management, socio-economic planning, as well as the issues of energy positive districts, smart city/region and urban safety. He is a co-author of several methodologies and expertise at the national as well as regional level in the field of integrated spatial development and regional development. He is a professionally qualified person for processes of SEA and EIA assessment.

Promotion of environmental stability – Positive Energy Districts as parts of integrated territorial resilience strategies

This lecture will cover:

1. Resilience – main challenges and trends
2. Energy transition challenges
3. Positive Energy Districts – approaches, contect and key nutschells
4. Best practice in PED in the Europe,
5. Case study of the city of Trenčín

Dr. eng. arch. Karolina Szaton-Orlińska – Architect, Urban Planner

An active member of IARP and TUP, and a member of the Board of the Silesian Branch of TUP. A university lecturer at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the Faculty of Architecture of the Silesian University of Technology since 2015. A graduate of postgraduate studies in UNIGIS at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. An assistant professor at the Institute of Ecology of Industrial Areas in Katowice. Specializes in revitalization and adaptation of cities to climate change. Her research areas include Smart Cities, nature-based solutions, and urban transformation processes using new tools such as temporary use of space. Co-author of monographs and scientific publications.

Strengthening mitigation and adaptation to climate change through the creation of blue-green infrastructure – selecting actions based on spatial analysis

This lecture will address the following questions:

1. How can cities strive for climate neutrality, particularly through the development of blue-green infrastructure?
2. Why does climate change pose threats to the city and its residents?
3. Can proper urban development planning mitigate the negative impacts of climate change?
4. What factors should be considered to reduce cities' sensitivity to climate change?
5. Through which tool can appropriate adaptive actions based on blue-green infrastructure be selected?
6. How can the indicator method be used to select solutions?

During the presentation, I will demonstrate which elements of the urban structure have the greatest impact on the city's sensitivity to climate change. Subsequently, I will illustrate how to measure this sensitivity and how, based on the indicator method, to select areas requiring support and choose directions for adaptive actions that should be implemented in a given spatial unit. The presentation includes a set of maps illustrating the spatial distribution of problematic factors in the city in the context of climate change, which I will discuss.

Dr. Anna Starzewska-Sikorska – chief specialist at IETU

She has been associated with the Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas since 1970ties. One of the first researchers who introduced the methodology of EIA/SEA in Polish environmental policy. From 2010 to 2022 a project leader of three projects co-financed by INTERREG Programme. Now the leader of the fourth one. The projects on brownfields management, green and blue infrastructure in urban areas and urban environmental acupuncture. Author of several books and numerous articles and reports.

Land revitalization examples in CIRCUSE and LUMAT projects

This lecture will cover:

1. The methodological approach to solving urban environmental problems
2. What is the circular land use management used in the CircUse project?
3. An example of activities is the revitalization of post-industrial areas in Piekary Śląskie
4. How environmental aspects can be integrated with land development on the example of the revitalization of an industrial waste landfill in Ruda Śląska
5. How involve residents in the decision-making process
6. What is aided phytostabilization and what are its benefits?
7. Tools and activities supporting the implementation of the action plan for brownfields redevelopment
8. Recommendations for brownfields regeneration

You will learn the methodological approach to solving urban environmental problems. What is the circular land use management used in the CircUse project? An example of activities is the revitalization of post-industrial areas in Piekary Śląskie.

We will present how environmental aspects can be integrated with land development and involve residents in the decision-making process using the example of the revitalization of an industrial waste landfill in Ruda Śląska. What is aided phytostabilization and what are its benefits? What are the tools and activities supporting the implementation of the action plan for the revitalization of degraded areas You will receive recommendations for the regeneration of brownfield sites.

Mgr. Blanka Marková, Ph.D. – senior researcher at IURS, z.s.

Graduate of the PhD program in Political and Cultural Geography at the University of Ostrava, she specializes in regional development strategies driven by culture and tourism. She possesses many years of expertise in the regeneration of brownfields through cultural initiatives and tourism. As an experienced facilitator, she has created development strategies for numerous cities and regions. She is the author of several books and numerous articles and reports.

The impact of tourism on the development of the post-mining regions

This lecture will cover:

1. The definitions of post-mining regions, post-mining landscapes and tourism.
2. Positive and negative impacts of tourism.
3. The actors involved in tourism-led regeneration strategies.
4. How tourism can change the trajectory of the region.
5. Examples of activities is the revitalization of post-mining areas in Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Germany.
6. Tools and activities supporting the implementation of the tourism-led regeneration strategies.
7. Recommendations and summary.

In the wake of extensive mining activities, post-mining regions often undergo profound transformations. Once vibrant hubs of extraction, these areas now face the challenges of environmental degradation and economic decline. Abandoned mines scar the landscape, leaving behind gaping craters and polluted water bodies. Former mining communities grapple with unemployment as industries dwindle, leading to a social and economic vacuum. Tourism development might be one strategy for regenerating post-mining regions. It brings new opportunities, supports the local economy, and showcases the unique and valuable aspects of the region to the world.