

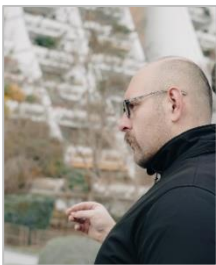


## Virtual Autumn School

# “We learn from the mistakes of others”

13<sup>th</sup> of November 2024

## PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES AND ABSTRACTS



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

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).

### Strengthening the protection and conservation of nature, biodiversity and green infrastructure – case studies – what went wrong and why

Ecological connectivity plays a pivotal role in ensuring the long-term protection of biodiversity and green infrastructure. However, the implementation of effective conservation strategies faces numerous challenges. This presentation examines case studies that highlight common obstacles and limitations in planning and implementation of ecological connectivity measures based on experience with several EU funded projects dealing with nature conservation. It is focusing on issues of stakeholder engagement, cross-sectoral coordination and policy integration. One approach developed to maintain ecological connectivity emphasizes the importance of harmonized tools and collaborative stakeholder involvement across various fields, including nature conservation, spatial planning and academia. Spatial planning is of crucial importance when dealing with these challenges as it creates a platform for multiple stakeholders to interact and work together to find solutions and implement the proposed measures within the planning systems, as well as it is integrating the policies into national planning system. Above all, the SaveGREEN project, building on knowledge and stakeholder networks developed in previous project activities, sought to safeguard structural and functional landscape connectivity through the development of an approach that addresses multi-sectoral problems via Cross-Sectoral Operational Plans (CSOPs). Despite promising methodologies, such as the identification of ecological corridors and decision

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support tools, implementation gaps emerged due to insufficient stakeholder buy-in, limitations in cross-sectoral integration and the complex nature of adapting solutions to diverse landscapes. Feedback from international experts further revealed that while theoretical frameworks were robust, practical challenges in policy mainstreaming and regional adoption remained. Lessons learned from these case studies emphasize the need for continuous stakeholder engagement, adaptive management, and flexible policy frameworks to overcome the identified shortcomings and ensure long-term ecological connectivity and biodiversity conservation



***Assoc. Prof. Eva Pauditšová, Ph.D. – Senior researcher at SPECTRA Centre of Excellence EU, Spatial Planning Department of the Institute of Management, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava***

Eva Pauditšová is an associate professor at the Spatial Planning Department of the Institute of Management of STU Bratislava and is one of the persons ensuring the quality of the Spatial Planning study program. She professionally focuses on the environmental and ecological aspects of planning processes at the theoretical, methodological and application level. These topics are provided by her within the profile subjects of the study program Spatial planning, in all 3 degrees of study. As part of planning processes, she applies an integrated approach to the evaluation and research of territories with an emphasis on efficient processing of spatial data about territories using the possibilities of geographic information systems. She is the author and co-author of many scientific and professional journal publications and monographs, the object of interest of which is the landscape, processes in the landscape and landscape planning and management. She participates in the preparation and assessment of strategic documents at the national and regional level. She is the author and co-author of several methodologies applied in the landscape planning and she is the author of dozens of environmentally and ecologically oriented documentation compiled for practice. Member of the several working groups at the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Investments, Regional Development, and Informatization of the Slovak Republic, member of several professional societies and organizations.

**Implementation of climate change resilience activities – searching for possibilities and ways**

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**Marek Matejczyk, MA** – *Leading Expert – Resources and waste management, Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas, Poland, Katowice*

Expert in the field of waste management and consultant in environmental protection, with more than thirty years of experience. Expert in environmental impact assessments and forecasts of the effects of changes in spatial development plans, auditor of the Polish Centre for Accreditation. For many years head of a research team conducting studies on waste, waste management, recovery and disposal technologies, as well as on fuels from waste and biological waste treatment products. He performed environmental audits, EIA reports, prepared documentations connected with integrated permits, environmental permits and licenses as well as conducted consultations for service, industrial and administration sectors. Author and co-author of several hundred studies and expert opinions as well as publications and patents.



**Mariusz Kalisz, MSc** – *Expert Resources and waste management in IETU, Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas, Poland, Katowice*

Master of Science in Environmental Protection, graduate of AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow, Faculty of Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Protection and postgraduate studies "Open Computer Systems" at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Automatics, Computer Science and Electronics of AGH. For 25 years, an employee of IETU Katowice, Department of Research and Development, Waste and Resource Management. He participated in over 200 projects in the field of waste management, brownfields redevelopment in the scope of restoring utility functions, and removing hazards to the soil and groundwater, and international research projects in the scope of circular economy, concerning the impact of waste and degraded areas on the environment, existing hazards and possibilities of their removal (post-industrial areas, degraded post-military and railway areas). Accredited sampler in the scope of environmental samples of waste, groundwater and soil, participation in projects in the scope of environmental monitoring in the areas of impact of waste management plants. Author of several scientific and branch publications in the scope of waste management, revitalization and sewage sludge management, as well as numerous publications and presentations.

### **Regional Waste Management Plans and ReBuilt & RE-PLAN Projects**

This presentation presents regional waste management strategies with a focus on integrating the circular economy. It describes the ReBuilt and RE-PLAN projects, which focus on sustainable construction and urban well-being through circular practices and the reuse of post-consumer tire recyclates in urban applications and municipal investments. These projects offer a framework for minimizing and avoiding waste, increasing material recovery and promoting resilient urban environments through collaboration between academia, industry and local authorities. The projects also focus on integrating activities between stakeholders through the promotion and improvement of Green Public Procurement (GPP).

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**Ing. Tereza Majstriková, Ph.D.** – Senior researcher IURS – Institute for Sustainable Development of Settlements, IURS, z.s., Czech Republic

Studied at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, VŠB - TUO. Within the scope of her work at IURS, z.s. she is dedicated to the area of utilization of building structures and materials, whether in the case of brownfields or the reuse of waste materials. She actively participated in the SURFACE project, which dealt with reuse activities. She is a co-author of the Action plan for the implementation of RE Use activities in the municipalities of the Stonávka catchment area.

### USE – advantages and disadvantages in municipality waste management - why something works and something doesn't

*This lecture will cover:*

1. What are the modern waste reduction trends?
2. Why RE-USE may not work?
3. Examples of the application RE- USE activity
4. Recommendations and summary

The idea of using waste has a relatively long history, and its origin is closely connected with lack of raw materials. Currently, reuse is associated with the effort to reduce the ecological footprint and is embedded in individual waste reduction strategies. However, it is not always easy to apply this idea and this is also the reason why it is often solved in the form of individual activities. Concrete examples from practice can show us how to approach these activities and help us discover what is an advantage or a disadvantage.



**Jacek Krzyżak, Ph.D.** – Leading Expert – Soil remediation, nature-based solutions and urban agriculture, Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas, Poland, Katowice

Doctor of Technical Sciences in the discipline of environmental engineering. Associated with IETU since 2002. His field of interest is the phytoremediation of soils contaminated with heavy metals. He is currently researching the use of marginal and contaminated soils for the cultivation of crops for industrial purposes and as a renewable energy source. He conducts international and national research projects in the field of soil management in post-industrial areas. Since 2022, he has been leading work in the areas of soil remediation, nature-based solutions and urban agriculture. Member of the Regional Council for Nature Conservation in the Silesian Voivodeship. Participates in the work of the Polish Committee for Standardization, Technical Committee (TC) No. 191 for Soil Chemistry.

### Opportunities and barriers in phytomanagement of heavy metal contaminated soils using high yielding energy and industrial crops

In recent years, phytomanagement, which focuses on the use of plants, related microorganisms and selected soil additives, has become the subject of intensive research aimed at finding an economically viable and ecologically

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sustainable method of restoring contaminated soils. Phytomanagement simultaneously promotes the restoration of the soils ecological functions and the reduction of its pollution while securing economic income, e.g. through the cultivation of crops for biomass processing technologies, thus contributing to increasing the demand for sustainable and renewable energy sources and raw materials for the bioeconomy. The lecture will present the implementation of phytomanagement in heavy metal contaminated soils based on own experiences, together with the opportunities and obstacles that can occur when implementing such an approach.



**Assoc. Prof. Barbara Vojvodíková, Ph.D.** – Senior researcher, Director at IURS, z.s., Czech Republic, Ostrava

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.

### **Technical problems of new construction related to underground mining - money for surveys is not money wasted**

*This lecture will cover:*

1. What makes an area with underground coal production characteristic?
2. What is sometimes forgotten when we build on brownfields?
3. Examples of the application of exploration methods
4. Recommendations and summary

The Ostrava and Karviná region is significantly affected by mining activities. Coal mining - underground mining brings with it several problems for new construction on the surface. However, the mining operations themselves have a few characteristics that must be respected. If we underestimate the preparatory and reconnaissance phases, we will usually encounter significant additional problems during the implementation or operation of a new construction, which, although solvable, will make the construction significantly more expensive

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