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CULTURE POWER IN VARIOUS CONTEXT

Third Place: „Speak-easy“ on the Way from Work to Home

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This paper deals with the concept of third place. The place constitutes a very urgent and frequented geographic topic, which is one of the crucial concepts of geographic thought and it has been one of the central notions in human geography since the 1970s. The concept of third place points out to the specific socio-spatial orientation, which is realized and experienced between two main places - work and home. Third place is in this case represented by so-called Speak-easy, the concept of celebrated hidden bars during the time of Great Experiment, known as Prohibition in the U.S. The main aim of paper is to introduce the Speak-easy Bar as an extraordinary concept of third place and discuss the whole concept by using the example of New York's nightlife during Prohibition. It should be also focused on the specific social atmosphere of particular places. The paper was prepared with financial support from the Charles University Grant Agency project 962216: The Concept of Place in the Context of Transatlantic Transformations.

The effectiveness of Turkish soft-power in the countries of the Western Balkans through the Yunus Emre Institute's activity

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The Balkans constitutes an important sphere of influence for both global and regional powers. The relationship with the countries of the peninsula is highly determined by the geographical proximity and the common historical past. Given these factors, Turkey's influence, as the region's significant power, dates back to the Ottoman Empire.

Turkey's foreign policy has largely changed over the years. From 2000, soft-power comes to the front. Soft-power has become an integral part of Turkish diplomacy, which, unlike hard-power, builds on the expansion of culture, art, literature and Turkish language. Different cultural institutions are important elements of the Turkish soft-power. Yunus Emre Institute, established in 2009, tries to increase Turkey's influence in the region by promoting Turkish culture and Turkish language.

The study attempts to present the effectiveness of the Yunus Emre Institutes in the non-EU countries of the Western Balkans. The applied methodology consists of literature review, a study of official and statistical data, and the analysis of semi-structured interviews with the directors of the Yunus Emre Institutes in the countries of the Western Balkans.

Key Words: Turkey, Western Balkans, Influence, Soft-power

Development and Prognosis of the Political Status of the Faroe Islands

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The Faroe Islands lie in the northeast part of the Atlantic Ocean and are autonomy territory of the Kingdom of Denmark. Faroes are small fishery nation with a population of about 50 000. In the late 19th century, this nation started to manifest strong nationalistic tendencies towards Denmark, which last up-to-date. On its background, Faroe Islands acquire autonomy in 1948, which is still extending to more fields of their administration. The archipelago starts to remind completely independent state. The main aim of this paper is to find out, whether the Faroes have the legal right to be independent, and whether we can expect the declaration of independence in the future. At first, the paper analyses political and historical development of the Faroe Islands with an aspect of nationalism, political party spirit and constantly changing relations with Denmark. It also introduces Faroese political administration and its principles, and the role of the Faroe Islands in the international relations. Due to a one-sided economy oriented on the export of fishes and fish products and financial dependence on Danish subsidies, it seems today, that the biggest barrier on the way to independence lies on the economic level.

Key Words: Faroe Islands, Denmark, Autonomy, Independence, National movement

Prehistory Czech punk scene

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In our countries, the punk movement erupted in the late 70s. In the opposite to the world punk scene, in our country, it was presented very carefully. In the very beginning, a punk rock found its listeners and fans in the underground. They mainly took it as a new, more interesting and more intensive musical genre. Afterward, these reins felt to the young generation, which has managed to show Czechoslovakia the true face of punk rebellion. Rude and striking lyrics in Czechoslovakia punk bands began to interest communist leaders. Therefore, the public and state security used all kinds of means to suppress this new stream. Inaccessibility of information made the view of entire subculture greatly distorted. That is why many bands were copying their idols using all available appropriations. Some of them even got into European awareness. Origins of Czech punk scene were in comparison to the beginnings of the world, more counterrevolutionary especially in the commercial system.

Key Words: Punk, Subculture, Underground, Communism

MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Factors hindering integration of Russian immigrants in Czechia.

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In recent years, due to the rise in the number of migrants, Prague is transforming into a cosmopolitan city. Integration of immigrants into Czech society becomes an important issue. However, the process of integration could be influenced by various factors. The paper examines the historical, institutional and discursive factors that affect and hinder the integration process of Russian immigrants. The analysis of the historical development of Russian immigration into Czechia, migration and integration policies as well as the Czech media discourse pointed to certain barriers in the process of their integration. Negative past experience, a strict setting of migratory policies towards third-country immigrants, and unfavorable discourse media affect the majority attitudes to the Russians and limit their meaningful encountering. Restricted social interaction leads to separation and subsequently complicates successful integration.

Key Words: Integration, Migration and integration policies, Media discourse, Third-country immigrants, Russians, Czechia

Motivations and barriers for Armenian return migration

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This paper focuses on return migration to Armenia and maps the experience of the recent returnees and expectations of the potential returnees. It presents the case for the multiplicity of return migration experience with some ramifications for the development of the country of origin. This study uses semi-structured qualitative interviews with returnees and key informants in Armenia as well as online surveys with Armenian migrants currently living outside of Armenia. It covers the broader areas affecting the return and reintegration policies as well as the organizations participating in the process of return and offering assistance to prospective returnees. It shows different motivations for return and argues that the motivation affects the overall reintegration experience that is important for starting a successful return project. Finally, it finds that the former country of settlement is not that significant when it comes to returnee reintegration back in Armenia but the returnees' levels of skills and social capital matter which is consistent with other studies on return migration.

Key Words: Return migration, Motivation, Development, Entrepreneurship, Armenia

TOURISM AND MARKETING

The comparative analysis of the Western-Czech Republic and Western Hungary (Western Transdanubia and Lake Balaton) with a special emphasis on the role of city sightseeing trains in the tourism supply

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The study aims to analyze the role of the city sightseeing trains which can be found everywhere in the frequent urban destinations, nevertheless, without much focus on tourism geographical researches. Western Czech Republic (the regions of Karlovy Vary and Plzen) and Western Hungary are both internationally well known for their health and cultural tourism supply based on medical spas. In our research, based on the national statistical offices' databases, we review the regions' general characteristics of tourism, the composition of the tourism supply and the supply of the major centers. In these destinations, we investigated the attraction potential and the allocation of the tourism attractions in relation with the itineraries of the city sightseeing trains, the allocation of the stations and the frequency of the routes.

Key Words: City sightseeing trains, Tourism development, Health tourism

Tourism in the Era of Demographic Ageing

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Demographic development of the world's population is among the main factors determining current and future demand in the tourism market. Population prognosis suggests that the demographic aging process will become more and more intense in the near future. Older people thus gradually become a strong group of participants in the tourism market. The aim of this study is to reveal significant changes in domestic tourism, which are primarily influenced by the growing age of its participants and the related end of economic activity when retiring. The method of quantitative research and analysis of data is combined with a qualitative method of inquiry in the form of an interview with communicating partners who have real-life experience with retirement. The results of the quantitative research have shown the relatively strong influence of an individual's age on some of his travel habits. In-depth interviews focused on understanding the deeper and more complicated contexts of the diverse aspects of travel not only in terms of age but also in combination with the experience of retirement. This life experience and retiring life are strongly reflected in the form of motivation to travel and the preferred holiday type. Traveling helps effectively combat the negative factors associated with retirement life, respectively mitigates their effects, helps maintain a certain degree of physical and mental activity of an aging individual.

Key Words: Tourism, Aging, Senior, Travel habits, Motivation, Czech Republic

What does the term zoo mean?

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Zoos belong to the most visited tourist attractions worldwide, and hence they have to be perceived as places full of animals as well as people. This tourism segment is called zoo tourism. But we can find different definitions and conceptions of zoos. The wide of zoo approach is a big methodological problem not only for the research analysis but for management or legislation, too. Zoos are historically caused and influenced and it is possible to talk not only about the evolution of zoos but also about the co-evolution of zoos. The knowledge about the zoo development together with the development of other tourist and leisure facilities is crucial, because of growing disparities among captive wildlife institutions. Nowadays, there are a lot of very modern and naturalistic, on conservation-oriented zoos but there are also animal-based attractions that seem very similar to the concept of the zoo of the 19th century. The main aim of this contribution is to introduce and discuss this topic and to suggest the wider zoo approach that is common in the majority of the research literature.

Key Words: Tourism, Zoo, Definition, Zoo typology

Role of motorsport in promoting brands

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Organization of sporting event is quite expensive and today is usually impossible without funding of various sponsors who support said event. And when you give someone your money, you expect something in exchange. Therefore, you can see a lot of logos of various companies sponsoring sporting events and via those logos, companies are hoping, that their brand or product will get the attention of visitors and that these visitors would eventually become customers of the said company. Thus, we can say, that companies use sponsoring of sporting events as a way of marketing and enlarging their brand awareness. And that is the main topic of this paper because the aim of the research is put on how visitors of motoring even perceive brands sponsoring a sporting event. The research was done during Barum Czech Rally Zlín 2017, where visitors were asked which brands they link with motorsport and said event and also how they are affected by sponsoring and tend to buy products of sponsors of the event.

Key Words: Brand awareness, Zlín region, Barum Czech Rally Zlín, Tourism

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS AND INEQUALITIES

Spatial inequalities among urban poor: a case study from Chennai slums, India

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Spatial inequalities exist within urban areas which remind that there is no uniform picture. This paper explores the spatial intra-urban poor inequality by taking the case study of women's accessibility of water and sanitation facilities in Chennai slums and also emphasis how these spatial inequalities embodying serious economic and social problems. The field data collected from the classified sample slums emphasized the physical differences among the slums, bring out interesting results. The result has revealed substantial levels of gender-space differences in need, choices, priorities, and problems in accessing water and sanitation facilities among the poor living in uneven slum environments. The implications of spatial inequalities in water and sanitation sector coverage go beyond logistic consideration of effective service provision. Being able to target where inequalities or vulnerabilities exist will bring us closer to the goal of universal water and sanitation, which will fulfill human rights obligations. The study has not only defined the spatial inequalities among urban slums in the context of water and sanitation facilities, it has also paved the way towards thinking about different needs and priorities of the slum people in the future plans of the slum development strategies.

Key Words: Spatial inequality, Slum, Women, Chennai, Water and Sanitation

Social factors of adolescent substance use – effects of peers, parental bonding and parental monitoring

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The paper aims at the analysis of the relationship between selected social factors and the prevalence of substance abuse among the Czech juveniles. Data from the Czech 2011 wave of the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs were used. Using a multilevel modeling framework, we point to the important role of both substance use among peer groups and friends the teenager socializes with, and the level of parental bonding and monitoring over his/her leisure time. These factors appear to be key for an effective planning and practice of prevention of risk behavior among the Czech youth.

Key Words: Substance use; Adolescence; Social factors; Quantitative analysis; Multilevel modeling

The Benefits or Curse of Mining Activity? The Case Study of Impacts of Mining Activity on the Development of Chosen Extractive Regions in Colombia and Chile.

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It is very common that politicians in resource-rich countries and regions are keen to employ and argue for the use of available mineral resources for the purpose of socio-economic development of their countries or regions. However, the approval of mining activity and its realization have more comprehensive effects and consequences. It entails a change of regional economy as well as it has impacts on the natural environment, social relations, culture and other things. All these changes and its magnitude are a result of specific (time-spatial) combination of a variety of factors, agents and processes more or less connected to the mining activity. The mining activity often brings both benefits and negative impacts (we can say costs). Therefore the important question is how big is the positive impact in comparison to the negative one on a chosen geographical area (its economy, inhabitants, and nature). This comparative study tries to analyze the general socio-economic „benefit“ of mining in some of the most important mining regions of Chile and Colombia. The analysis using available statistical data at the regional level of the countries to explain whether the mining activity is (in these cases) more beneficial or not.

Key Words: Mining, Socio-economic development, Statistics, Chile, Colombia

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN CENTRAL EUROPE

Investigation of the spatial impact and local embeddedness of the hotel industry in Hungary

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The accommodation sector has a significant role in the system of tourism, due to the fact, that the primary superstructure consists of accommodation and catering facilities. The significance of the primary tourism superstructure is attributable to the fact, that in most cases the elements of the material conditions of the settlement convert the settlement into a destination, without the accommodation and catering facilities discussed here, the guests could not consume services, could not be accommodated and therefore could neither be able to increase the number of guest nights. These accommodation types, especially hotels, are indispensable for guests to visit the destination to gain complex service provision. However, in the tourism space, the hotels are present simultaneously with different economic, natural and social processes. The research focuses on the exploration of the specific attributes, that are derived from the territoriality of the hotels operating in Hungary. In the research methodology, the recent toolkit of the postmodern marketing and the newest qualitative and quantitative research methods are applied.

Key Words: Spatial impact, Local embeddedness, Social geography, Hotel industry, Hungary

Complex development opportunities of Hungarian spa towns of international interest

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Health tourism is an internationally recognized product of Hungarian tourism with valuable traditions. As Hungary is abundant in quality medicinal and thermal waters the bathing culture has great traditions in the country. Today those settlements can be regarded as successful spa towns in the long run, which have gained a considerable domestic and foreign clientele through their former and present developments. Successful spa towns have a great economic advantage resulting from the enormous incomings and resources gained through quality health tourism. Quality developments help to increase the quality of services and the standard of living, which is of high priority regarding both the tourists and the local people. The town and tourism developments, the appearing new services and infrastructural investments have a multiplication effect and act together.

In my research, I examine the complex tourism and regional development opportunities of the best known Hungarian spa towns – Bük, Gyula, Harkány, Hajdúszoboszló, Hévíz, Sárvár and Zalakaros – offering the highest quality and attracting the most guests. The present structure of these settlements had developed through the centuries. The present developments should be planned in a complex way with the protection of natural resources and by highlighting the importance of systems theory based planning. This way such a harmonious development can be achieved in the long run, which preserves the unity of local endowments, especially the ecological unity and health of the unique medicinal aquifers. Besides these both the local resources based planning and the prioritizing of local communities contribute to the long run sustainability of settlements. My aim is to make comparative analyses about the seven, internationally important spa towns, by which a general, common development model can be constructed which will support the sustainable and conscious decisions.

Key Words: spa town, health tourism, development, Hungarian tourism

Airbnb in Prague: Blurring boundaries between tourism and private space

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Prague's historical center has been suffering for a long time by overall touristification. The process of functional change of this part of the city has been caused by high tourist intensity and inappropriate or even absent tourism planning of the city. Nevertheless, there have not been any resident violence or resistance against tourist, tourism and its impact on local residents to this day (as could be seen in other tourist cities in Europe). As our previous study shown, local residents were able to develop some practics how to cope with tourism pressure (Dumbrovská 2016). But the situation is changing with the development of Airbnb in Prague. Airbnb short-term rental is working under different spatial patterns than traditional accommodation establishments and as such it could penetrate to the originally private and protected sphere of local living.

The paper will display and analyze the basic spatial pattern of Airbnb in Prague, its development, and structure. The aim is to discuss the consequences and impacts on local residents and city life and set up the opportunities to deal with the upcoming situation connected to Airbnb short rental spreading.

Key Words: Tourism, Urban, Airbnb, Prague, Impacts

URBAN SPATIAL PATTERNS AND DEVELOPMENT

Non-development as development; on paradoxical nature of neighborhoods change

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In the economy of scarcity (real socialism economy) – while having ambitious urban plans of alterations of the city, limited resources had led, in the ‘socialist utopia’ era, to the paradox of Prague as an old preserved city (relatively limited demolition in general [e.g. only limited demolitions in historical neighborhood Žižkov] and building of panel housing estates on green meadow at the city margins instead or only few individual realizations if projects with city-wide impact [e.g. ‘Prague city highway’ through the city]). This may be contrasted with (post)colonial individual interventions at the expense of public interest in the liberal/neoliberal era (demolitions and build up in Prague heritage reservation area and shopping mall and administrative centers build-up in purely residential areas of the inner circle of historical residential neighborhoods). In this light, what has been the role of non-development (before 1989) and natural development within its own limits after 1989 (post-socialist local self-regentrification of originally historically bourgeois neighborhoods [Vinohrady, Letná, Vršovice])?

Key Words: Environment as design, Development within its own limits, Post-socialist self-regentrification, Neighborhood change

Historical or new functional centers of Brno?

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During the second period of last century, many studies were focused on changes in functional city structure. Processes leading to these changes has become a central theme for both American and later for European urban geographers. The emphasis was placed on the study of monocentric, polycentric and others spatial city models. In the Czech Republic, with respect to changes in whole society, these processes have been boosted especially after 1990. On the example of Brno, this article deals with results of a recentralization process, which describes the emergence of new and functionally complex urban centers besides historical city center. However, the main aim is to show, that roots of these new city centers (identified in 2016) could go deep in the history and also the reasons for their formation could be different. The article will also concentrate on the comparison of newly identified centers. Application of the comparative approach will show similarities and differences in their characteristics.

Key Words: Recentralization, City center, Spatial model, Brno

Daily mobility of households living in Prague's hinterland

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Suburbanization increases demands on the mobility of residents living in a hinterland of large cities. Contemporary research on the mobility of residents living in suburban settlements often captures the (daily) mobility between two “core stops” – home and work/school. The journey between home and work/school is the most important trip for most residents, however, its harmonization with other activities may be perceived as problematic by many of them. In addition, many studies focus on new suburbanites' mobility only. Therefore, the presented research focuses on the daily mobility of all kinds of households with children (regardless of their length of residence) in a small suburban town and aims to fill the gap in the currently available research. The paper poses two basic questions: 1) Which mobility patterns can be found among households with children living in the suburban zone? 2) Are there differences between “old” inhabitants and the “newcomers” in the localization of activities and its motives? Rather than distinguishing between “old” and “new” residents, a more complex approach is needed. Identifying four basic groups of households is the key finding of the study.

Key Words: Suburbanization, Daily mobility, Prague, Activity space

Comparison and analysis of surface urban heat island spatial variability in cities of the subtropical zone

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Two Cities, Thimphu (Bhutan) and Damanhour (Egypt) both lying in the sub-tropical region with different elevations were studied to analysis their surface urban heat island (UHI). While Thimphu is at an elevation of 2,320 m with an average temperature of 6 – 22 °C, Damanhour is located at 18 m above level with 16 – 38 °C average monthly temperature. Remote sensing thermal infrared images from LANDSAT 8 were used for estimating the land surface temperature (LST) to compare it by taking into account the contribution of the spatial variability in these cities. Contributing variable such as land cover and land use, elevation, normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) are evaluated for correlation to the intensity of LST on the surface UHI. The LST for an urban and rural area were determined for both cities using the regression model to demonstrate the prevalence of different explanatory factors for these cities.

Key Words: Surface urban heat island (UHI), Land surface temperature (LST), Remote sensing, Geographic information system (GIS)

ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY: NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND SECURITY

Rethinking food security policy of the G7 countries

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The richest countries have developed the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition to involve the private sector in fighting food insecurity in Africa, which was, however, criticized by Western and African civil societies. Main concerns involved human rights violation, limited access to production resources, marginalization of smallholder farmers or negative impacts on the environment. I focused on two key questions: What model of food security is promoted by the G7 countries? How are the impacts of the NAFSN perceived by the involved actors? The research is grounded in several approaches. Modern models of productions are tightly linked to neoliberal trade, (neo)productivism and commercial food system. These are challenged by the approaches of food ecology, food regimes, and food movements. On the top of that, there is the Human Rights-Based Approach. The research design develops a qualitative approach to data gathering and analysis. It is based on the policy analysis of the NAFSN outputs and interviews with four categories of respondents: G7 policy makers, representatives of private companies, African farmers and representatives of concerned civil society. Findings of my research indicate that the involvement of private companies in G7 official development strategies might have negative impacts on food security realization.

Key Words: Food security, G7 countries, Africa

Industry 4.0 and the prospects of the Czech automotive industry

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New technologies, sometimes referred to as Industry 4.0 technologies, may have a disruptive effect on economies that rely on a large extent on manufacturing which is also the case of the Czech economy. There are two main reasons for raising the concerns. First, the implementation of new technologies will reduce demand for manual labor. Second, because of the labor cost reducing character of technologies, low labor costs may become an obsolete competitive advantage and even reallocations either to the mother countries or to the cheaper locations might occur.

The presented paper will study these effects on the example of six companies in the automotive industry in Czechia based on qualitative interviews conducted between January and April 2018. These companies are part of the multi-national corporations (MNCs) which allows me to analyze eventual prospects for upgrading within the global production networks (GPNs). Further, in my research, I study the impact of labor reducing technologies implemented in production on job quantity and job content. The prospects of workers in the Czech automotive industry do not seem to be dark for now, but is there any guarantee this won't change in the future?

Key Words: Industry 4.0, technologies, Automotive, GPNs, Upgrading, Labour

Alternative Economic Spaces in India

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In the presentation, I would like to offer some tools for navigation in the debate about alternative economic spaces. I would like to present several possible differentiations (soft/radical, anti/post-development, cautious/populist etc.) which can support further discussion. In my research, I draw on fieldwork in several rural regions of India. In the first part of my presentation I would like to offer different framings of alternative economies and then I would like to document several hypotheses in the series of case studies.

Key Words: Alternative economic spaces, Post-development, Social movement, India



Land tenure security and its implications for the productivity of urban agriculture in Soweto, South Africa

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Land and land tenure regime are the most crucial assets determining viability and productivity of urban agriculture. Many authors are using traditional agricultural theory, that land tenure regime and its security have implications for productivity (especially through the choice of the crops and the level of investment) thus stressing the need of secure land tenure for more prosperous urban agriculture. Nevertheless, current research lacks an empirical evidence of the consequences of various land tenure regimes for the productivity of urban agriculture. However, is this theory really applicable to small-scale agriculture in urban areas, where the land tenure regimes often vary significantly from those in rural areas? Therefore, this research aims to reassess the pronounced theory by exploring the relationships among different land tenure regimes, perceived land tenure security and decisions towards investments in urban agriculture in Soweto, the largest Johannesburg's township, by employing the mixed method research.

Key Words: Urban agriculture, Land tenure, Land tenure security

URBAN THEORIES AND METHODS

Spatial delimitation of metropolitan regions in Czechia and Poland: concepts and methods

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This paper discusses approaches to the definition and spatial delimitation of metropolitan regions. It is an important step in the comparative analysis of metropolitanization processes in Czechia and Poland (which is the theme of my doctoral dissertation). The paper first overviews the definition and spatial delimitation of metropolitan areas in academic studies of urbanization and urban development in the United States and Western Europe. It summarises the main lessons and ideas for application in contemporary Central Europe. Secondly, the paper pays attention to academic as well as planning and policy approaches to metropolitan regions and their geographical delimitation in Czechia and Poland, with a special focus on the post-1989 period. Being inspired by lessons from the west and referring to Czech and Polish examples from recent years, the paper proposes a concept of the metropolitan region including methods of its spatial delimitation to be used in the comparative analysis of contemporary metropolitanization processes in both countries.

Key Words: Metropolitan regions, Delimitation, Czechia, Poland

Against pure comparison: An open and relational approach to Southern and Northern US cities

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Temple University

This paper argues against a traditional comparative urban studies approach to Southern and Northern cities in the United States. Based on my fieldwork in New Orleans and Philadelphia, I argue that merely pointing to similarities and differences not only elides important historical and contemporary relations but reinforces stereotypes that make solidarity across cities and regions more difficult. Using research examples and personal experiences from my time in both cities, I call for a relational comparative approach that recognizes the interconnected economic and political trajectories of these two cities. Using the work of Doreen Massey and Elizabeth Grosz, I point to the many ways that these cities are not bound and discrete urban areas, but open and embedded places where thresholds are routinely crossed to form linkages, groupings, and alliances. I point to the ways in which this can be detrimental, as in the exchange of education reformers and school privatization techniques. I also point to how interrelatedness aids in social movement building particularly in fighting for Black Lives Matter and against white supremacy.

Key Words: Urban geography, Social movements, Comparative urban studies, Regional studies

Poly-rationalities in Jane Jacobs' world: Application of Cultural Theory

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"Jane Jacobs' critique on spatial planning in the post-war period influences the city development to this day. Her notions have been incorporated into many city planning offices. However, in order to understand the fundamentals of Jane Jacobs' proposals, it is necessary to grasp what she criticised and in which way she answered. The use of the poly-rationality concept derived from Cultural Theory might help in a better understanding of conflicts between Jane Jacobs and her "opponents" such as city planners or certain ways of planning at that time. After reviewing her work, we conclude, that the mentioned discord could have emerged from the use of different conflicting rationalities. Nevertheless, at least Jane Jacobs herself did not stick to only one rationality type in her thoughts but rather promoted to consider their combination in planning.

Key Words: Jane Jacobs, Benjamin Davy, the theory of poly-rationality, Tysons Corner

Local Walkability Zones: a New Concept in Urban Geography

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Walkability – defined as environmental conditions for walking – has most frequently been investigated by researchers from the fields of medicine, urban planning, tourism, transport and urban geography. Most walkability studies concern health or transport issues, both using objective approach, subjective approach or their combination. The objective approach looks at an e.g. land use pattern, physical features of the path, urban design, urban density and other environmental characteristics. Using subjective approach to evaluate walkability, there is a focus on individuals' perceptions and other behavioral variables. Most studies concern evaluation of walking environment as a decisive issue. However, there is a significant research gap pertaining to spatial walkability clusters. In our paper, we present a new concept of local walkability zones (LWZ) – areas with the similar walkability values. We propose a study involving both objective and subjective walkability evaluation and we formulate following research questions: Do LWZ show spatial biases? If so, how these biases vary during the day and year? Is there a connection between spatial biases of space-time walking behavior and LWZ?

Key Words: Walkability, Urban environment, Spatial biases, Travel behavior, Time geography

CONSEQUENCES OF HISTORICAL EVENTS IN SPACE

Monitoring Land Cover Changes of Military Training Areas using Remote Sensing: Case studies Ralsko and Brdy

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The study deals with an evaluation of land cover changes of the selected military areas: Brdy and Ralsko. The observed period is from 80's of the last century till present. The methodology of the research is based on the remote sensing data and supervised classification method. The Landsat archive data were used for purpose of the classification and aerial photos were used for the validation and accuracy assessment. The results show the changes related to military activities in the areas: the increase of forest land, the expansion of successive vegetation and the attenuation of military activities. Remote sensing data and methods were found out as very useful and prospective approaches to the studies of land cover changes in the military areas.

Key Words: Remote sensing, Land cover, Supervised classification, Maximum likelihood, Military training area

Old maps of smaller territorial units - source of information on the European preindustrial landscape

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Studies of the European pre-industrial landscape are – due to numerous difficulties – relatively rare. A research into early-modern texts and cartographic sources, as well as a field research, have to rely heavily on interdisciplinary approaches. In this respect, maps of smaller territorial units, particularly those from the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries, are unique and – so far – underestimated sources.

This paper presents maps of smaller territorial units (mainly estate maps) and their potential in the current historical geography. Estate maps were created thanks to an initiative of important individuals – estate owners – with the intention to record and present the properties owned by the nobility. The artistry and technology of these maps also inform us about the level of development of the given society. Using several estate maps as examples, this paper will attempt to answer these crucial questions: What is the character of estate maps and how do they differ from printed or large-scale topographical maps? Where can they be found? What information do they contain? Finally, will be assessed their usefulness for the study of the 18th and 19th centuries, particularly focusing on the landscape before the outset of industrialization.

Key Words: Estate maps, Preindustrial landscape, Surveying, 18th and 19th centuries

Life paths of persons affected by civil wars in former Yugoslavia

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Every ethnic, religious or another political conflict or war have deep-seated roots in structural causes in society. The culmination of the armed conflict is usually related to more than one factor. In the former Yugoslavia this changes meant a primarily unstable mix of ethnics and religions, slow transitional economies and political instability. Period of wars, risks, and misery has influenced demographic, economic and migratory structure in the whole society. In some states that have emerged after the nineties of the 20th-century peace and stability remain fragile and insecure. Problems which people are facing now have a big impact on their behavior, objectives, consciousness, aspirations and their identity, that they had till the eighties. Wars between former republics have had long-term effects not only on the populations in the conflict zones but also on populations beyond these territories (through the flight of refugees and by the economic impacts - externality effects on regional economies, by socio-cultural impacts). In our research work, we will focus on the impact of war conflict on everyday lives of individuals (citizens of former Yugoslavia) using the time-space budget data and semi-structural interviews.

Key Words: Ethnic, Religious, Conflict, Former Yugoslavia, Behavior

Thirty Years' War and human carrying capacity - from historical geography to population ecology

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We studied the population dynamics in Bohemia in the 17th and 18th centuries in the context of various environmental conditions. In the first half of the 17th century, the population of this area was lowered by the Thirty Years' War. This enormous disturbance was later followed by a slow repopulation.

We collected population size data for 88 randomly selected villages and compared the population dynamics with different geographical predictors. Our results show that the repopulation was highly dependent on the disturbance extent and that the population size of individual villages was mediated by soil fertility and cadastre size. This is a demonstration that the "carrying capacity" was affecting the human populations even in the modern times.

Key Words: Thirty Years War, Disturbance, Rural settlement, Population ecology, Historical demography, Human carrying capacity

POSTER SESSION

A study on international tourism between East Asian countries: focus on package tours

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The purpose of this research is to clarify the characteristics of international tourism among the three countries in East Asia, especially focusing on package tours between Japan, China, and Korea.

The research method was to extract tours posted online by major travel companies in Japan, China, and Korea. From these tours, all the information was collected. From this information, a database was put together, which also compared the features of package tours among those three countries. Moreover, the travel magazine named 《A-B Road》 was taken as research material, considering the past package tours to Korea and China for the same major Japanese travel companies listed in 1984, May 1985, May 1990, May 1995, May 2000, May 2005, 2006. I put together a database for each separate year, and I observe the changes and develops of the package tours in Japan from year to year.

We also compare features of current tours in China and Korea with features of past tours in Japan.

As a result, the current tours from China are similar to the tours in Japan in the 1980s, and it became clear that the current tours from Korea are similar to the tours in Japan in the 1990s.

Key words: International tourism, Package tours, Japan, China, Korea

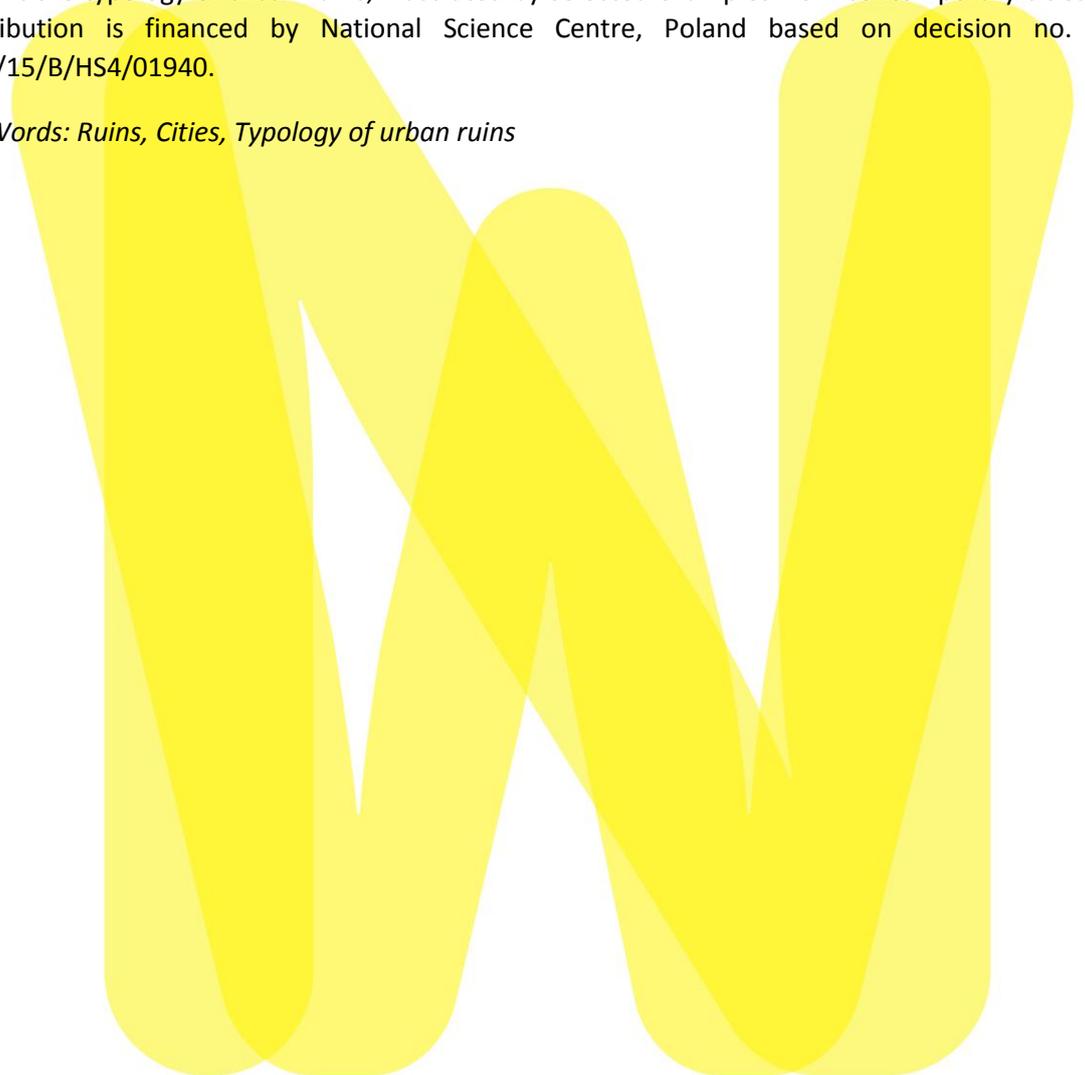
Ruins in urban space

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Ruins are an integral part of urban tissue in each contemporary city. These are desolate, human-made structures which remain in technical conditions that not let them use legally without any type of restoration or modernization. The origins of ruins are various and they can come from natural disasters as well as from intentional or unintentional human action. Their existence in urban space is conditioned by many factors: economic, social, cultural or even political. The aim of this paper is to present the typology of urban ruins, illustrated by selected examples from contemporary cities. This contribution is financed by National Science Centre, Poland based on decision no. DEC-2014/15/B/HS4/01940.

Key Words: Ruins, Cities, Typology of urban ruins



Using Spatial Statistics Tools to Analyze Habitat Diversity Perception in an Urban Space: A Study of Vecdaugava (Latvia) Residents

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With the rapid expansion of the urban space, various biologically diverse areas that were formerly outside the urban environment are now gradually included in the city landscape (Nielsen et al., 2014). Therefore, highly biodiverse areas are the subject to increased anthropogenic pressure and are more likely to be used for recreation purposes (Young et al., 2005).

It is well known that the perception of the urban biodiversity varies among different stakeholders: local residents, city planners, and researchers etc. Exploring the knowledge of particular social groups is not only an important challenge for future research, but it directly affects the sustainability of the urban biodiversity conservation (Cilliers, 2010). The last decades have seen a growing interest of scientists and policymakers on the assessment of ecosystem services with participative mapping and GIS tools, yet less explored are the local residents of the target areas (Clemente et al., 2015). The research focuses on the perception of a particular social group: families, as it provides an insight into the perception of space and its' habitat values from two different generations: parents and their kids; it also allows to study the similarities and differences between both entities.

This research seeks to compare scientifically assessed urban habitat diversity data with the perception of the local families of Vecdaugava (Latvia) using geospatial tools.

Key Words: GIS, Ecosystems, Perception, Families, Urban

Environmental fragility in watersheds of Pirapó river - Paraná, Brazil.

Cássia Maria Bonifácio, Hélio Silveira & Maria Teresa de Nóbrega

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The aim of this research was the development and application of a methodology for the environmental fragility evaluation in Pirapó river watersheds basins, in Paraná State – Brazil. Based on existing methodologies, we tried to develop a form of evaluation that would enable the development of synthetic maps of environmental fragility, which would reflect the essential geo-ecological structure of the landscape and also at the same time easier to understand. The methodological approach came from the integrated analysis of the landscape aimed to survey its geo-ecological structure, the operation, and identification of the several landscapes units presented in the inner area of the selected basins, whilst the environmental fragility cartography relied on the identification and the morphopedological characteristics. In this methodological approach, the defining element of the class of the potential fragility was the type of soil and the slope that became the element that ranks the degree of fragility within each class. The forms of land use have been incorporated, generating the emergent fragility map. The proposed methodology, was able to reproduce the observed differences in the geoecological structure and the associated dynamics (processes), recommending it as a tool to be applied to environmental zoning.

Key Words: Landscape units, Watershed, Morphopedological Characteristics.

Water quality and land use in a tributary of the Paranapanema basin - São Paulo, Brazil

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Federal University of São Carlos

Brazil is an economically agricultural country, but all this use causes environmental problems, which cause a decrease in water quality. This work sought to establish relationships between the influence of each type of land use with certain parameters of water quality. The analyzed watercourse is a tributary of the Paranapanema basin, located in the municipality of Buri, São Paulo - Brazil. It is also in the area of the recently established Federal University (UFSCAR). Three points were selected, monitored for a period of six months, with different land uses: 1 - native vegetation and wheat, 2 - wheat and corn, 3 - soy with an irrigation system. The parameters of water quality were: pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and suspended solids. When comparing the results with the limits of the Brazilian Legislation, we have that the only parameter in disagreement was the pH, which was below the acceptable level. For solid suspensions and turbidity, the highest values were found in the soy/irrigation system, followed by wheat/corn, once there is diffuse flow in agriculture. The highest value of dissolved oxygen was found in the use of vegetation/wheat, which makes this environment less impacted than the others.

Key Words: Water quality, Monitoring, Paranapanema basin.

Matter flows and conductivity changes during rainfall-runoff events in headwaters – case study upper Blanice river

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This paper presents matter flows of chemical parameters in the upper Blanice watershed in Šumava Mountains, right tributary of Otava River during 2016–2017. Results show parameters dependence on flow and area of each subwatershed. The spatial differences present influence of settlement and different land cover and land use. There is also one profile from the drainage system, which shows higher conductivity, lower concentrations of dissolved O₂ and lower pH. Another focus is based on changes of conductivity together with runoff during different rainfall-runoff events (summer rainfall, after a long drought, during spring thaw) in 2014–2016. There have been found six different hysteresis loops, clockwise, two counter-clockwise and three eight-shaped. During summer rainfall-runoff events the clockwise type occurred in more than half cases. Others were eight-shaped. After long drought have been occurred counter-clockwise and during spring thaw clockwise. It shows different behavior of water quality changes during and after different types of rainfall-runoff events.

Key Words: water quality, conductivity, rainfall-runoff events, headwater area, upper Blanice River

Microgeography in shopping centres

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This study aims at revealing customers' spatial movement and decision-making processes within shopping centres.

Key Words: Retail, Microgeography, Customers behavior

